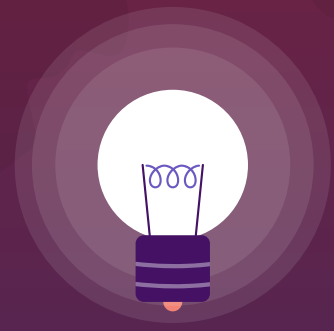


May 2023

 oliveboard

SSC BOLT



MONTHLY
GK PREP



(Current Affairs + Static Questions)
{Including bonus CK questions, as per the updated
CGL Tier II pattern}

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Important Current Affairs

Economy

1. C-PACE to simplify removal of company names from register: MCA

The ministry of corporate affairs (MCA) has set up the Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE) that is expected to provide timely and process-bound striking-off of companies from the MCA register.

As per the new rules issued by the Ministry of corporate affairs, from May 1, applications for removal of the name of a company under Section 248 of the Companies Act would be made to the registrar, C-PACE.

Section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 provides for removal of the name of company from the Registrar of Companies (RoC).

2. India to contribute 16% to global GDP growth over 2023-24: Morgan Stanley

According to Morgan Stanley, India is benefitting from a combination of cyclical & structural tailwinds and is expected to contribute 16 per cent of the global gross domestic product growth over 2023-24.

With the Indian economy being a key contributor for Asian economic growth outperformance, the broad-based recovery in demand runs counter to the weakness seen outside Asia.

3. RBI approves Rs.87,416 cr surplus transfer to Centre for FY23

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) board has approved the transfer of Rs.87,416 crore as surplus to the central government for the accounting year 2022-23.

The central bank has also decided to raise the contingency risk buffer to 6% from 5.5% earlier.

The apex bank had transferred '30,307 crore to the government in FY22 as against '99,122 crore in the previous year.

4. India Remains A Bright Spot, Economy Expected To Grow 6.7% In 2024: UN report

The World Economic Situation and Prospects as of mid-2023, released by UN, said India's economy, the largest in the South Asian region, is expected to expand by 5.8% in 2023 and 6.7% in 2024 (on a calendar year basis), supported by resilient domestic demand.

Inflation in India is expected to decelerate to 5.5 per cent in 2023.

The estimates for India's economic growth in the mid-year assessment remained unchanged from the projections made in the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2023 report launched in January this year.

The flagship report issued in January had said that India's GDP is projected to moderate to 5.8 percent in 2023 as higher interest rates and global economic slowdown weigh on investment and exports.

According to the report, the world economy is now projected to grow by 2.3 percent in 2023 (+0.4

percentage points from the January forecast) and 2.5 percent in 2024 (-0.2 percentage points), a slight uptick in the global growth forecast for 2023.

5. Growth expected to exceed 7% in FY23: RBI Governor Das

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das said the growth for 2022-23 is expected to be more than the advance estimate of 7 per cent on the back of economic momentum maintained in the third and fourth quarters of the last fiscal.

As per the second advance estimate released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in February, the economy is estimated to grow at 7 per cent in 2022-23 against 8.7 per cent in the preceding fiscal

National

1. India's first cable-stayed Anji-Khad Rail Bridge ready in record time

- The Anji-Khad rail bridge, India's first cable-stayed rail bridge, is ready.
- The first bridge of its kind is made of 96 cables in total. Anji-Khad rail bridge will connect Katra to Reasi in Jammu and Kashmir.

- The bridge has been made using cutting-edge technology and is designed to withstand harsh weather conditions.

2. Government cuts windfall tax on petroleum crude

- India has cut the windfall tax on petroleum crude to 4,100 rupees (\$50.14) per tonne from 6,400 rupees per tonne.

- The government left the windfall tax on petrol, diesel and aviation turbine fuel at zero.

- The government revises tax rates fortnightly based on oil price fluctuations

3. World's highest Chenab rail bridge is ready clearing all tests

- Indian Railways has created history by building the world's highest Chenab Railway Bridge in Jammu and Kashmir.

- This bridge has been built between Bakkal and Kauri in Jammu and Kashmir, some 42 km from Reasi district, and on the middle line of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra to Banihal.

- The bridge has passed all the mandatory tests.

- This bridge is higher than the Eiffel Tower.

- The height of the Eiffel Tower is 324 meters, however the height of this bridge is 359 meters. Its length is 1,315 meters.

- This bridge will be able to withstand wind with a speed of 260 kilometers per hour and is capable of withstanding an earthquake of magnitude 8 on the Richter scale. Presently a single track has been laid on it.

4. India Will Get Its Own Index To Quantify Heat Impact Next Year: IMD Chief

- India will launch its own composite index next year to quantify the impact of heat on its

population and generate impact-based heatwave alerts for specific locations, the India Meteorological Department has said.

- The IMD began issuing an experimental heat index for different parts of the country last week, taking into account air temperature and relative humidity .

5. Vistara operates first commercial, wide-body aircraft flight using SAF

• Indian full-service carrier **Vistara** has become the **first Indian airline** to operate a **commercial, wide-body aircraft** on a domestic flight using **Sustainable Aviation Fuel(SAF)**.

- Vistara's Boeing 787-9 flew from **Delhi to Mumbai** using a blend of 17% SAF with 83% conventional jet fuel.

• It was able to reduce approximately 10,000 pounds of CO2 emissions on this flight. Vistara CEO: Vinod Kannan.

- In April 2023, Vistara operated a wide-body aircraft on a long-haul international route using SAF, first time for an Indian airline. A blend of 30% SAF and 70% conventional jet fuel was used on a ferry flight between Charleston International Airport, South Carolina to Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi, which resulted in the reduction of approximately 1,50,000 pounds of CO2 emissions over the fuel's life cycle.

6. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates IAF Heritage Centre in Chandigarh

• Defence Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated the **first-of-its-kind Indian Air Force (IAF) Heritage Centre**.

- The Centre has been set up under a memorandum of understanding between the Union Territory of **Chandigarh** and the **IAF** which was signed last year.

• Spread over 17,000 square feet, this is the first heritage centre of the IAF and depicts its role in various wars, including in 1965, 1971 and the Kargil war, and the Balakot air strike through murals and memorabilia.

7. Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal launches 'Harit Sagar' the Green Port Guidelines 2023

• To meet the larger vision of achieving the Zero Carbon Emission Goal, the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways** has launched '**Harit Sagar**' the Green Port Guidelines.

- **Harit Sagar Guidelines 2023** envisages ecosystem dynamics in port development, operation and maintenance while aligning with '**Working with Nature**' concept and minimizing impact on biotic components of harbor ecosystem

• It lays emphasis on use of Clean / Green energy in Port operation, developing Port capabilities for storage, handling and bunkering Greener Fuels viz. Green Hydrogen, Green Ammonia, Green Methanol / Ethanol etc.

8. Indian govt to launch faster immigration clearance scheme for 'trusted travellers' at airport

• With an aim to **reduce congestion at airport checkpoints**, the Indian government will soon launch a '**Trusted Traveller Programme**' for faster immigration clearance of pre-verified travellers.

- The new scheme will be launched for travellers with Indian passports across international airports in India.

• The program will be started on a **pilot basis at Delhi and Mumbai airports** this year. Later it will be expanded to 15 more international airports by 2027 and all airports by 2032

9. Govt to spend \$1.2 billion on modernising semiconductor lab in Mohali

• The government will spend around **\$1.2 billion** to modernise the **Semi-conductor Laboratory (SCL) in Mohali**, a 30-year-old facility currently capable of producing 8-inch CMOS microchip wafers mostly used for the country's strategic needs such as the space programme.

- The planned modernisation and commercialisation of the facility is a part of the government's \$10 billion India.

10. Santiniketan recommended for inclusion in UNESCO world heritage list

• **Santiniketan** the **abode** of Nobel Laureate poet **Rabindranath Tagore** has been recommended for inclusion in the **UNESCO World Heritage List** by an international advisory body.

- India has been striving for a long time to get a UNESCO tag for this cultural site in **West Bengal's Birbhum district**.

11. Tungnath temple built by Pandavas declared national monument

• **Tungnath** is the highest of the five Panch Kedar temples in the district of **Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand**, and has now been declared as a **national monument**.

- The ancient temple which is located at an altitude of 12,106 feet is connected with the **Pandavas**.

12. Varanasi International Airport becomes first in India to offer a reading lounge, free of cost

• The **Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport** is the **first in India** to offer a **free reading lounge to the passengers**, with a collection of literature.

- The Airport Reading Lounge is a reflection of Kashi, for both traditionalists as well as the contemporary visitors and passengers, and for those who wish to seek further knowledge on the mystical heritage of this ancient city

13. MoHUA's Mega Campaign 'Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shehar' launched

• The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**'s campaign titled, '**Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shehar**', is launched to champion the RRR's of waste management- **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle**.

- Urban India is increasingly adopting the principles of making 'Wealth' from waste with citizens actively refurbishing old items for reuse.
- This nationwide campaign aims to highlight cities to setup 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (RRR) Centres, one stop collection centres, for citizens to contribute clothes, shoes, old books, toys and used plastic to be reused or recycled.

14. Indian government launches CEIR tracking system for lost or stolen mobile phones

- The Indian government is rolling out a tracking system that will enable people to **block and track their lost or stolen mobile phones** across the country. The **Centre for Department of Telematics (CDoT)**, a technology development body, has been running the pilot of the **Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) system** in some telecom circles.
- The CEIR system is equipped with an in-built mechanism that allows it to detect the use of cloned mobile phones across all telecom networks, thereby aiding the government in preventing revenue loss to the exchequer.
- To this end, the government has mandated that the International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number, a 15-digit unique numeric identifier, be disclosed prior to the sale of mobile devices in India.
- The mobile networks will have access to the list of approved IMEI numbers, which will check the entry of any unauthorised mobile phones on their network.

15. IT hardware PLI 2.0: Centre approves revised PLI scheme with Rs 17,000 cr outlay

- The **Union Cabinet** cleared a revised **production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for IT hardware with an outlay of Rs 17,000 crore**, more than **doubling the budget** for the scheme that was first cleared in 2021. The scheme will be implemented **from July 1**, with a cap on maximum incentives available to participating companies.
- The tenure of the new scheme has been fixed for six years and the Centre is expecting an investment of over Rs 2,430 crore as part of it.
- The expected incremental production value could touch Rs 3.35 lakh crore, and the scheme could generate 75,000 direct jobs – in total, the employment figure could touch 2 lakh when accounted for indirect jobs.

16. PM inaugurates International Museum Expo 2023

- The Prime Minister, Shri **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **International Museum Expo 2023 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi**. He also unveiled the plan for **one of the world's largest museums, Yuge Yugeen Bharat**, which will capture 5,000 years of India's history and replace the existing one.
- The **Mascot** of the International Museum Expo is a contemporized version of the **Dancing Girl made of wood in the Chennapatnam art style**.

17. Bhopal becomes first Indian city to track progress towards meeting SDGs

- **Bhopal** in Madhya Pradesh has become the **first city in India to adopt the localisation of the United Nations-mandated sustainable development goals (SDG)**. MP's capital city will now have voluntary local reviews (VLR) demonstrate local government's capacity and commitments.

- Bhopal's VLR is the result of a collaboration between the Bhopal Municipal Corporation, UN-Habitat and a collective of over 23 local stakeholders to measurably demonstrate the city's aspirations for a sustainable and inclusive urban transformation.

18. G-20 disaster risk reduction working group to convene in Mumbai to address escalating global disaster risks

- The **G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG)** is poised to hold its **second meeting in Mumbai** from 23-25 May, 2023, as the world grapples with an alarming surge in disasters and climate change-related risks.
- The meeting assumes great significance against the backdrop of a growing number of disasters that are posing significant economic challenges.
- With the aim of exploring innovative approaches to managing disaster risk and financing sustainable development, the gathering will bring together government officials, industry experts, private sector representatives, and stakeholders from over twenty countries.

19. Government Cuts FAME-II Subsidy On Electric Two-Wheelers From June 2023

- The government has **reduced the subsidy** provided under **Faster Adoption of Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles** in India scheme applicable on electric two-wheelers registered on or after June, 2023.
- For electric two-wheelers, the demand incentive will be Rs 10,000 per kWh
- The cap on incentives for electric two-wheelers will be 15% of the ex-factory price of vehicles from 40%
- The **Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric and Hybrid Vehicles India scheme commenced on April 1, 2019**, for a period of three years, which was further **extended for a period of two years up to March 31, 2024**.

20. India makes tests mandatory for cough syrup export from June 1

- India will now allow the **export of cough syrups only after the samples are tested** in a government laboratory, the government said in a notice. This order comes after India-made cough syrups were found to be contaminated, and were linked to the deaths of dozens of children in Gambia and Uzbekistan.
- Exporters will be required to get their cough syrups tested **from June 1 onwards**.
- Last year, cough syrups made by two companies based near New Delhi were linked to the deaths of at

least 70 children in Gambia and 19 in Uzbekistan. The cough syrups exported by manufacturers Maiden Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Marion Biotech contained lethal toxins. Both the companies had denied the allegations, and are being investigated.

- More recently, in April, the World Health Organisation (WHO) flagged contaminated cough syrups made by Punjab-based QP Pharmachem Ltd, that were found in Marshall Islands and Micronesia. The cough syrups were marketed by Hyderabad-based Trillium Pharma.

21. Shri Giriraj Singh launches SAMARTH campaign to promote digital transactions at Gram Panchayat Level

- **Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh**, officially launched the 'SAMARTH Campaign on Promoting Digital Transactions in 50000 Gram Panchayats' under the Amrit Mahotsav in **Lucknow**.

- This campaign, which will continue until August 15, 2023, is part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations and aims to promote digital transactions in rural areas.

22. PM Modi inaugurates new Parliament building, installs sengol in Lok Sabha chamber

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 28 inaugurated the new Parliament building in the heart of Delhi, with the ceremony marked by the installation of the sengol, a sceptre, in the new Lok Sabha chamber next to the Speaker's chair.

- The new Lok Sabha chamber, designed along the peacock theme, can seat 888 members, while the Rajya Sabha, built around the lotus theme, can accommodate 300 members.

- This is the same Sengol that **was accepted by the first Prime Minister of India Nehru at his residence on the night of 14th August**, in the presence of several leaders.

- On this night Jawaharlal Nehru received the 'Sengol' from the Adheenams (Priests) of the Thiruvaduthurai Adheenam (Mutt) in Tamil Nadu, who had specially arrived for the occasion.

- The Prime Minister took a decision to adopt the Sengol as a national symbol of the Amrit Kaal.

- The Sengol is profound in meaning, which is **derived from the Tamil word "Semmai", meaning "Righteousness"**.

- It is **blessed by the high priests of a leading Dharmic Mutt in Tamil Nadu**.

- The Nandi, with its unyielding gaze as the beholder of "Nyaya", is hand-carved at the top.

- Most importantly, the recipient of the Sengol has the "order" ("Aanai" in Tamil) to rule justly and fairly.

23. PM Modi chairs 8th governing council meeting of Niti Aayog

- The eighth governing council meeting of Niti Aayog was held in **New Delhi**, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

- The meeting discussed issues related to skill development, health, infrastructure, women's empowerment and aimed to make India a developed nation by 2047.

- The meeting also **focused on implementing 'Gati Shakti'** for area development and social infrastructure.

- As the chairman of NITI Aayog, PM Modi presided over the meeting, which deliberated on issues related to health, skill development, women empowerment and infrastructure development, with an aim to make India a developed nation by 2047.

24. Ministry of Civil Aviation launches UDAN 5.1 specifically designed for helicopter routes

- The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched **UDAN 5.1** to further enhance connectivity to remote areas of the country and achieve **last-mile connectivity through helicopters**.

- This follows four successful rounds of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) and with version 5.0 of the fifth round underway.

- The main features of the 5.1 include -- an increase in the scope of operations for operators wherein the scheme will now allow routes where one of the origin or destination locations is in a priority area. Earlier both points had to be in priority areas.

25. PM Modi flags off Northeast's first Vande Bharat Express

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off Northeast India's first Vande Bharat Express train via video-conferencing and added that it will boost tourism, and enhance connectivity.

- **Connecting Guwahati with New Jalpaiguri**, the train will help save about an hour of journey time, when compared with the current fastest train connecting the two places.

- Vande Bharat will cover the journey in 5 hrs 30 mins, while the current fastest train takes 6 hrs 30 mins to cover the same journey.

26. DGCA approves for night landing facility at Kalaburagi Airport

- Directorate-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has approved the night landing facility at Kalaburagi Airport, Karnataka.

- The Kalaburagi Airport was inaugurated on November 22, 2019, by the then Chief Minister of Karnataka Shri B S Yediyurappa. It has a runway of 09-27 (3175m x 45m) and an apron suitable to park 03 aircraft.

- There has been a demand for providing night landing facilities to the airport for a long time. With the approval by DGCA for the night landing facility the Aerodrome License for the airport has been **amended from VFR (Visual flight rules) to IFR (Instrumental flight rules) for All Weather Operations**.

27. 8th International Convention of Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music among Youth - SPIC MACAY inaugurated in Nagpur

- In Nagpur, the 8th International Convention of the Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music among Youth -SPIC MACAY was inaugurated at **Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology - VNIT in Nagpur.**
- This cultural convention is being jointly organized till the 4th of next month, by the Union Ministry of Culture, and Incredible India.

International

1. G7 nations agree on 'risk-based' artificial intelligence regulation

- The Group of Seven advanced nations agreed to adopt 'risk-based' regulation on artificial intelligence, as European lawmakers hurry to introduce an AI Act to enforce rules on emerging tools such as ChatGPT.
- G7 Members: Canada, Italy, France, United States, Germany, United Kingdom and Japan

2. Kaladan project: India flags off shipment for Sittwe Port in Myanmar

- A vessel containing 1,000 metric tonnes of cement was flagged off from the **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in Kolkata** to officially kick-start the operation of Sittwe Port in Myanmar.
- The project is part of the **\$484-million Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project (KMTTP)**, and has been built under grant assistance from India.
- The primary aim of the project has been to create an alternative route to connect northeast and mainland India.

3. WHO Declares End To Covid-19 Global Health Emergency

- The World Health Organisation on May 5th declared that Covid-19 is no longer a global public health emergency.
- This represents a major step towards ending the pandemic & comes **3 years after it first declared its highest level of alert over the virus.**
- However, that does not mean COVID-19 is over as a global health threat as it claimed

4. Mpox No Longer A Global Health Emergency: WHO

- The World Health Organization declared that mpox no longer constitutes a global health emergency, almost exactly a year after the disease formerly known as monkeypox started spreading globally.
- The announcement comes just a week after the UN agency also declared that Covid-19 no longer constitutes a public health emergency of international concern, its highest level.

5. Ireland signs law requiring cancer warnings on all alcoholic beverages

- Ireland is on track to become the **first country to enforce mandatory health advisories on alcohol products.**
- The Irish Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly, has approved the new policy, which will be implemented starting from May 22, 2026.
- This three-year period aims to allow businesses enough time to adjust to the new public health guidelines.

Sports

1. Ding Liren beats Ian Nepomniachtchi to crown World Chess Championship

- Ding Liren became **China's first world chess champion** after a rapid-play tie-break victory over Russia's Ian Nepomniachtchi in Kazakhstan.
- Ding, takes over as winner of the World Chess Championship from Norway's Magnus Carlsen, who chose not to defend his title after a 10-year reign.

2. Sergio Perez wins Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2023

- **Red Bull driver Sergio Perez** held off defending Formula 1 champion Max Verstappen to win the Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2023 at the Baku City Circuit.
- Sergio Perez took advantage of a fortunately timed safety car to beat his teammate Max Verstappen to the win in the Formula One Azerbaijan Grand Prix on Sunday, adding it to the sprint he won the day before, as Red Bull kept up its winning start to 2023.

3. Mairaj Ahmad Khan and Ganemat Sekhon win Gold for India in ISSF Shotgun World Cup in Cairo, Egypt

- The seasoned Mairaj Ahmad Khan and youngster Ganemat Sekhon, combined effectively to give India their first medal, a Gold in the ongoing ISSF World Cup Shotgun in Cairo, Egypt.
- The Indian mixed doubles pair defeated Luis Raul Gallardo Oliveros and Gabriela Rodriguez 6-0 in the final of the Skeet Mixed Team event on day four of the tournament.

4. Neeraj Chopra Wins Doha Diamond League With A World Leading Throw Of 88.76m

- Tokyo 2020 Olympic javelin throw champion Neeraj Chopra started his season by winning the Doha Diamond League 2023 with a world-leading effort of **88.67m on his first attempt** at the Qatar Sports Club.
- Athletes competing in Diamond League are awarded points instead of medals and top eight athletes at the end of the Diamond League series qualify for the Diamond League final. His personal best and national javelin record is 89.94m.
- Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch, the Tokyo Olympics silver medallist, wasn't far behind and hit a season-best 88.63m in his second attempt. Reigning world javelin champion Anderson Peters from Grenada logged 85.88 to come third. His throw also came off the first attempt.

5. Logo, mascot of 3rd Khelo India University Games launched in Lucknow; 12-day Games to begin on 23rd May

- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the game's mascot **Jitu the Barasingha**, an incredible mammal, along with Shakti (the official torch), logo, anthem and jersey.
- The games Anthem titled '**Khelo India ' Har Dil Mein Desh' is composed and sung by renowned singer Palash Sen**. The opening ceremony is slated for May 25, 2023 in Lucknow.

6. Nepal join India, Pakistan for Asia Cup 2023 after winning ACC Men's Premier Cup

- Nepal have qualified for the Asia Cup 2023 after winning the ACC Men's Premier Cup. The team, led by Rohit Paudel defeated the United Arab Emirates by 7 wickets in the final that was played across two days at the Tribhuvan University International Cricket Ground in Kirtipur.
- Nepal, therefore, joined India and Pakistan in Group A of the Asia Cup to be played in September.

7. Luca Brecel beats Mark Selby to become snooker world champion for the first time

- **Belgium's Luca Brecel** became the **first player from mainland Europe to win the snooker world title** resisting English player Mark Selby's fightback to win 18-15 at The Crucible, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England.
- World Snooker Championship along with the UK Championship and the invitational Masters make up snooker's Triple Crown Series.
- Joe Davis, an English snooker player, won this tournament 15 times from 1927 to 1946.

8. Asian Weightlifting Championships: Jeremy Lalrinnunga wins silver medal at Jinju, Korea

- In the Asian Weightlifting Championships, India's weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga won a silver medal at Jinju, Korea.
- The 20-year-old won medal in the snatch event with a lift of 141 kg in the **67 kg weight class**

9. Bindyarani Devi clinches silver medal in 55kg category at Asian Weightlifting C'ships

- In Weightlifting, India's Bindyarani Devi has clinched a silver medal in the women's 55kg category at the Asian Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Jinju, South Korea.
- Sorokhaibam Bindyarani Devi registered a combined lift of 194 kg to finish second on the podium.
- China's Chen Guan Ling won the gold medal with a combined lift of 204 kg.

10. Praveen Chithravel sets national record in triple jump in Cuba

- Indian triple jumper Praveen Chithravel set a new national record with an effort of **17.37 metres** on his way to winning a gold medal in the Prueba de confrontacion 2023 athletics meet in Havana, Cuba.

- Chithravel improved on the previous men's triple jump national record of **17.30m** set by Renjith Maheswary at the third Indian Grand Prix in Bangalore in 2016.

11. ISSF World Cup: India's Rhythm Sangwan wins bronze medal in Women's 10 metre air pistol event in Baku

- India's Rhythm Sangwan has won the bronze medal in the women's 10-metre air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2023 for rifle and pistol shooters in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- It was **Sangwan's first individual senior medal at the shooting World Cup**.
- She scored 219.1 in the final to finish third behind Anna 2016 Rio Olympic champion Anna Korakaki of Greece and 2004 Athens Olympics gold medallist Olena Kostevych of Ukraine.

12. Indian boxers secure historic three medals at World Boxing Championships

- Indian boxers have ensured three medals at the World Boxing Championships for the first time as they advanced to the semifinals in Tashkent.
- India created history when **Deepak Bhoria at 51kg, Mohammed Hussamuddin at 57kg, and Nishant Dev at 71kg** emerged victorious in their respective quarterfinal bouts.
- This is for the **first time Indian men's boxers will bring home three medals home from a World Championships**.

13. ICC Rankings: India slips to 3rd spot, Australia remain world No 1 in ODIs

- India dropped to third position behind Pakistan and three points adrift of world number one Australia in the latest ICC ODI men's Team rankings.
- Five-time world champion Australia improved its rating from 113 to 118 following the annual update, maintaining a slender lead over Pakistan (116 points) and India (115 points).

14. AIPA to organise third National Ranking Pickleball Tournament in Margao

- The third National Ranking Pickleball Tournament will be organised by the All India Pickleball Association (AIPA) from May 19 to 21.
- AIPA will conduct the tournament in association with the Goa Pickleball Association and Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs, Goa.

15. India's Divya and Sarabjot win mixed team pistol gold at Baku World Cup

- India's Divya TS and Sarabjot Singh emerged third-time lucky as a pair, winning gold in the 10m air pistol mixed team event of the ISSF World Cup.
- Shooting on competition day two, the Indian pair who had finished fifth in two earlier World Cup stages in Cairo and Bhopal respectively, broke through with a fine 581 to top the 55-team qualification.

16. Indian shooters Hriday Hazarika and Nancy Mandhotra bag silver medals in 10-meter air rifle event at ISSF World Cup 2023

- Indian shooters Hriday Hazarika and Nancy Mandhotra have bagged silver medals in the men's and women's 10 meter air rifle events, at the ongoing ISSF World Cup 2023 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

- It was the first-ever ISSF World Cup medal for 21-year-old Hriday Hazarika as well as 19-year-old Nancy Mandhotra.

- Hazarika made it to the men's 10m air rifle final.

17. National football federation declares P.K. Banerjee's birthday as 'AIFF Grassroots Day'

- The All India Football Federation has declared June 23, the birthday of Indian football icon Pradip Kumar Banerjee, as the 'AIFF Grassroots Day'.

- Popularly known as P.K., the late Mr. Banerjee **captained the Indian team in the 1960 Rome Olympics** and enjoyed a stellar career as a player before taking up coaching, where he also tasted plenty of success.

18. India bags 16 gold medals at the South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship 2023

- The 3-day international event South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship 2023 concluded in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.

- Indian contingent bagged all gold medals that were on offer, here on the final day of the event at the Dorjee Khandu Indoor Stadium.

- **In the Under-19 Boys singles, Ankur Bhattacharjee defeated Payas Jain.**

- **Suhana Saini won the Under-19 Girls singles.**

- In this event more than 100 athletes and officials from six countries Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Nepal participated.

19. V. Praneeth becomes India's 82nd Grandmaster

- V.Praneeth became **Telangana's sixth and India's 82nd Grandmaster** when he outwitted GM Hans Niemann of US in the penultimate round of Baku Open 2023.

- 15-year-old Praneeth earned his first GM-norm at First Saturday GM March 2022 where he also became an IM & his second GM-norm at Biel MTO in July 2022. He earned his final GM-norm at 2nd Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2023.

20. Adidas to be Team India's kit sponsor until March, 2028

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced that the Indian national cricket team had secured a new kit sponsorship deal with the renowned German sportswear powerhouse, Adidas.

- The association between the BCCI and MPL Sports concluded earlier than anticipated, prompting an interim sponsorship deal with the makers of the renowned clothing brand Killer Jeans.

21. Neeraj Chopra creates history, becomes world number 1 in men's javelin throw rankings

- Tokyo Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra has claimed number one ranking in men's javelin for the first time, which is a major career milestone for him.

- Neeraj Chopra has **topped the charts with 1455 points, 22 ahead of Grenada's Anderson Peters.**

22. Indian athlete Shaili Singh bags bronze medal at Golden Grand Prix 2023 athletics meet in Japan

- Indian athlete Shaili Singh clinched a bronze medal at the Golden Grand Prix 2023 athletics meet in the women's long jump event in Yokohama, Japan.

- Germany's Maryse Luzolo won the gold medal with an effort of 6.79 meter while Australia's Brooke Buschkuehl bagged the silver medal with a 6.77 meter leap.

- Two years back, Shaili Singh had won a silver medal at the World Athletics UNDER-20 Championships in Nairobi.

23. Slovenia Open: Sameer Verma Wins Gold; Rohan Kapoor-Sikki Reddy Bag Silver

- Indian shuttler Sameer Verma has won gold in the Slovenia Open Badminton Tournament being held in Maribor, Slovenia.

- In the men's singles final, he beat Taiwan's Su Li Yang. While the duo of Rohan Kapoor and Sikki Reddy bagged silver in the mixed doubles

24. Indian Long jumper Murali Sreeshankar wins gold; Jeswin Aldrin takes silver at International Jumping Meeting in Greece

- Indian Long jumper Murali Sreeshankar won gold while compatriot Jeswin Aldrin finished bagged silver at the International Jumping Meeting at Kallithea in Greece.

- Successfully defending his title in the Men's long jump event, Commonwealth Games silver medallist Sreeshankar registered his season-best **jump of 8.18 meter.**

25. CSK vs GT IPL 2023 Final: CSK wins their fifth IPL title in last ball thriller

- CSK skipper MS Dhoni received the winning cheque of Rs.20 crore for winning the IPL 2023 tournament.

- GT skipper Hardik Pandya received the runners-up trophy and a prize money of Rs.12.5 crores.

- With magnificent 890 runs, Shubman Gill won the Orange Cap for the IPL 2023 season

- Shubman Gill won the most valuable player of the season award for the IPL 2023 season.

- CSK opener Devon Conway won the player of the match award for his solid performance in IPL finals 2023.

Here are all the honours from the IPL 2023 season.

- **IPL 2023 champions:** Chennai Super Kings

- **Emerging player of the season:** Yashasvi Jaiswal

- **Super striker of the season:** Glenn Maxwell (strike rate of 183.49)

- **Game changer of the season:** Shubman Gill

- **Perfect catch of the season:** Rashid Khan

- **Purple cap:** Mohammed Shami (28 wickets)

- **Orange cap:** Shubman Gill (890 runs)

- **Most valuable player of the season:** Shubman Gill
- **Fair Play award:** Delhi Capitals
- **26. Uttar Pradesh Hockey wins 13th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2023**
 - Uttar Pradesh Hockey won the 13th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2023 after **defeating the Hockey Association of Odisha** in the Final at the iconic Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium, Odisha.
 - Meanwhile, Hockey Haryana beat Hockey Madhya Pradesh to finish third in the competition
- **27. India clinches title of CAVA Women's Challenge Cup 2023**
 - India has won the title of NSC-CAVA Women's Volleyball Challenge Cup held in Kathmandu.
 - India won the title **by defeating Kazakhstan** in the final at the National Sports Council's Covered Hall in **Tripureshwor, Kathmandu.**
 - The event was organised by the Nepal Volleyball Association and is supported by the NSC, eight nations participated in it.
 - In the competition, Kazakhstan became the runner-up, Nepal third, Uzbekistan fourth, Sri Lanka fifth, Kyrgyzstan sixth, Maldives seventh, and Bangladesh eighth.
- **28. India's ace shuttler HS Prannoy clinches Malaysia Masters badminton title**
 - India's ace shuttler HS Prannoy has clinched the Malaysia Masters badminton title.
 - He defeated Weng Hong Yang of China 21-19, 13-21, 21-18 in men's singles final in Kuala Lumpur this evening.
 - Facing off for the first time, Prannoy and Weng saw a close battle in the first game, with the former taking a slender 11-10 lead at the mid-way interval.
- **29. Savitribai Phule Pune University clinches first Gold medal with win over Osmania University in women's tennis event**
 - In Khelo India University games, Savitribai Phule Pune University conquered their final quest with a 2-0 victory over defending champions Osmania University to clinch their first Gold medal in the women's tennis event in **Ekana International Tennis Stadium Lucknow.**
 - Meanwhile, women tennis players of **Jain University outdid the University of Madras 2-0 to clinch the bronze medal.**
- **30. MS Dhoni becomes first Indian to record 300 dismissals with Gill stumping in IPL 2023 final**
 - Chennai Super Kings captain **MS Dhoni** became the **first Indian to record 300 dismissals in T20 cricket** during the IPL 2023 final against Chennai Super Kings at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.
 - Dhoni recorded the feat when **he stumped GT opener Shubman Gill** off Ravindra Jadeja's bowling. Dhoni's reaction time was clocked at a staggering 0.1 seconds.

31. Jyothi Yarraji clinches gold medal at T-Meeting 2023

- Jyothi Yarraji bagged the gold medal in the **women's 100m hurdles event** in the T-Meeting 2023 athletics meet, **in Tilburg, the Netherlands.**
- In the category E World Ranking competition the 23-year-old **clocked 13.20s in the final** to secure victory in the event.
- Jyothi Yarraji topped the **heats with a time of 13.08s** as she made her way to the final
- **Angel Agwazie of Belgium clinched the silver medal** as she clocked 13.64s. While the Dutch athlete Mira Groot clocked 13.78s to bag the bronze.

Agreements & MoUs

1. Reliance Consumer ties up with Ceylon Beverage for Campa

- Reliance Consumer Products (RCPL) has entered into a strategic partnership with Ceylon Beverage International, one of the largest beverage can and filling companies in Sri Lanka promoted by former cricketer Muthiah Muralitharan, to co-pack and manufacture its Campa soft drinks cans.

● Ceylon Beverage International will co-pack cans for the Campa soft drinks portfolio in India

2. MoHUA and MoR jointly ink MoU with JICA for Project SMART

- The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Ministry of Railways jointly signed an MoU with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for **'Station Area Development along Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail' (Project-SMART).**
- Project-SMART envisages to develop surrounding areas of Mumbai - Ahmedabad High Speed Railway (MAHSR) Stations to enhance accessibility and convenience of commuters & other stakeholders and to promote economic activities in the vicinity of station areas.
- The project would facilitate and enhance institutional capacity of State Governments, Municipal Corporations and Urban Development Authorities to plan, develop and manage surrounding areas of MAHSR stations.

● The MoU was inked for four High Speed Rail Stations- Sabarmati, Surat in Gujarat and Virar and Thane in Maharashtra; out of 12 stations in-route.

- Surat, Virar and Thane are Green fields while Sabarmati is a Brown field development.

3. MyGov, in collaboration with Ministry of Culture, launches 'YUVA PRATIBHA' Singing Talent Hunt

- With an aim to promote Indian music at the grassroots level on a national scale by identifying and recognising the new and young talent in various singing genres, MyGov in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture is launching a YUVA PRATIBHA Singing Talent Hunt.

- The initial submission for the competition will be open for a period of one and half months.
- Singing Talent Hunt is a unique opportunity for citizens across India to display their singing talent and skills and to gain national recognition.
- If one wishes to be New India's emerging artist singer, or musician, then he/she can participate in the YUVA PRATIBHA ' Singing Talent Hunt and lend the melodic voice in the various genres:

- o Folk Songs

- o Patriotic Songs

- o Contemporary Songs

4. Israel ties up with IIT-M to set up water technology centre

- The Government of Israel is partnering with India through Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) to establish an India-Israel Center of Water Technology (CoWT) in water resources management and water technologies at IIT-M.

5. TCS Led Consortium Bags Over Rs 15,000 Crore Order From BSNL For 4G Deployment Across India

- The consortium led by Tata Consultancy Services Limited has received an Advance Purchase Order valued over Rs 15,000 crore from BSNL, a 100 per cent Govt. of India owned Public Sector Undertaking, for the deployment of a 4G network across India,.
- The BSNL 4G services will be started all over India within 18-24 months after placing the purchase order.
- The government has also reserved spectrum in the 600 MHz, 3300 MHz and 26 GHz bands for BSNL for providing 5G services, which would be provided after roll out of 4G services all over India.

6. Goa Signs MoU with Uttarakhand to Strengthen Tourism Cooperation

- The officials of the Government of Goa and the Government of Uttarakhand have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate towards enhancing the tourism landscape of both Goa and Uttarakhand.
- The signing of this MoU between the officials of the two states marks a significant step towards promoting tourism in Goa and Uttarakhand and showcasing India's rich cultural diversity to the world, aligned with the 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative launched by the honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Schemes

1. Government Decides To Extend Smart Cities Mission Deadline Till June 2024

- The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has decided to extend the deadline for the Smart Cities Mission till June 2024, following requests from some cities that sought more time to complete their ongoing projects.
- **The existing deadline of the Mission was June 2023.**
- The Narendra Modi government launched its flagship Smart Cities Mission (SCM) on June 25,

2015 and 100 cities were selected for redevelopment through a two-stage competition from January 2016 to June 2018.

2. ISRO to start online training programme for PG and final-year UG students

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced a new introductory-level online training programme called Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START).
- **START is aimed at postgraduate and final-year undergraduate students of Physical Sciences and Technology.**

- The programme will cover various domains of Space Science, including Astronomy and Astrophysics, Heliophysics and Sun-Earth interaction, Instrumentation, and Aeronomy.

3. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and APY complete 8 years

- Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana completed eight years.
- These schemes are playing an instrumental role in providing social security net and affordable insurance to the people.
- **These three schemes were launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 9th May 2015 from Kolkata in West Bengal.**
- Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana is a one-year life insurance scheme renewable from year to year offering coverage for death due to any reason. The scheme provides life cover of two lakh rupees in case of death due to any reason against a premium of 436 rupees per annum.
- Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana is a one-year accidental insurance scheme renewable from year to year offering coverage for death or disability due to an accident. The scheme provides accidental death cum disability cover of two lakh rupees against a premium of 20 rupees per annum.
- Under the Atal Pension Yojana, the subscribers would receive the guaranteed minimum monthly pension ranging from one thousand to five thousand after the age of 60 years, based on the contributions made by the subscriber.

4. Mahila Samman Savings Certificate Gets Exempted From TDS On Interest Earnings

- The Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) scheme, which encourages women to invest, won't charge any tax on the interest earnings. The Union Ministry of Finance has included this scheme under sub-clause (c) of clause (i) of sub-section (3) of section 194A in the Income-tax Act, 1961. **Thus TDS on interest up to Rs 40,000 is exempted.**
- **About MSSC**
 - o This scheme allows women to open an MSSC account for themselves or on behalf of a minor girl, with the deadline for account opening set as March

31, 2025. Under this investment scheme, a minimum of Rs 1,000 must be invested. The maximum investment limit is set at Rs 2 lakh, and the deposited amount earns interest at a rate of 7.5 per cent per annum, compounded quarterly.

- o The maturity period of the scheme is two years from the deposit date.

- o Additionally, after the first year, but before maturity, the account holder can withdraw up to 40 per cent of the balance by submitting Form-3.

- o Closure of the account before maturity is only permitted in special cases, such as the account holder's death or on compassionate grounds, such as medical emergencies or the guardian's death.

5. Health Ministry launches '75/25' initiative for people with hypertension, diabetes

- In a significant move to combat the rising burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), the Union Health Ministry of India unveiled the ambitious "75/25" initiative.

- The program aims to ensure that **75 million individuals suffering from hypertension and diabetes receive standardised care by 2025**, primarily through Primary Health Centers (PHCs).

- Under the initiative, the government plans to train approximately 40,000 Primary Health Care Medical Officers on the Standard Treatment Workflow for NCDs.

- This training will be facilitated through the Shashakt Portal, enabling healthcare professionals to provide improved services at the community level.

6. Govt to set up 1,100 new Farmer Producer Organizations(FPOs) in cooperative sector

- The Ministry of Cooperation said these additional 1100 FPOs have been allocated to National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under FPOs' Scheme.

- Under the FPO Scheme, financial assistance of 33 lakh rupees is provided to each FPO. Further, financial assistance of 25 lakh rupees per FPO is provided to the Cluster Based Business Organizations.

- Since February 2021, the agriculture ministry is implementing a central sector scheme titled **'Formation and promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) with a budgetary provision of Rs 6,865 crore.**

- According to the cooperation ministry, primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) --- which have a member base of around 13 crore farmers and are primarily engaged in short-term credit and distribution of seeds and fertilisers -- will now be able to undertake other economic activities as well.

- Integration of PACS in the FPO scheme will enable them to expand their business in the areas of supply of production inputs; agricultural equipment like cultivator, tiller and harvester, and processing, it said.

- PACS will also be able to undertake high income generating activities like bee-keeping, mushroom cultivation, and others.

7. Ministry of Civil Aviation launches UDAN 5.1, specifically designed for helicopter routes

- Following four successful rounds of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) and with the version 5.0 of the fifth round underway, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched UDAN 5.1 to further enhance the connectivity to remote areas of the country and achieve last mile connectivity through helicopters.

- **For the first time under RCS-UDAN, this round is designed specifically for helicopter routes.**

- The latest round of UDAN scheme is a testament to two emerging phenomenon in Indian civil aviation - one, a deeper democratisation of air travel with a focus on last-mile connectivity.

- Second, a growing appetite for helicopters in aiding tourism. Greater helicopter penetration through such efforts will help boost tourism, hospitality, and thus, our local economies.

Appointments & Resignations

1. Ajay Banga Selected As Next World Bank President

- The Executive Directors of the **World Bank selected Ajay Banga** as President for a five-year term beginning June 2.

- In February, President Joe Biden announced that the U.S. would be nominating Banga to lead the World Bank because he is "well equipped" to lead the global institution at "this critical moment in history"

- Banga recently served as Vice Chairman at General Atlantic. Previously, he was President and CEO of Mastercard, a global organisation with nearly 24,000 employees.

2. PM Prasad to be next Coal India chief

- The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PSEB) recommended Central Coalfields CMD Polavarapu **Mallikharjuna Prasad** as the next Chairman and Managing Director of Coal India (CIL).

- Prasad is expected to take the charge of India's largest coal miner accounting for almost 80 per cent of the mined commodity from July 1.

3. Delhi High Court appoints Justice P Krishna Bhat as administrator of Basketball Federation of India

- The Delhi High Court appointed former Karnataka High Court judge, Justice P Krishna Bhat as the administrator of the Basketball Federation of India (BFI) to conduct its elections in compliance with the National Sports Code and Model Election Guidelines (MEG).

- **Dr. K Govindaraj, current President of the Basketball Federation of India.**

4. Parminder Chopra, first woman to lead India's largest NBFC

- The Public Enterprise Selection Board (PESB) has recommended the name of Parminder Chopra to succeed as the next CMD of India's largest NBFC by networth (all reserves), Power Finance Corporation (PFC).

- **Chopra will be the first woman to be appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the Maharatna company.**

5. Praveen Sood appointed new CBI Director for a period of two years

- **Karnataka Director General of Police Praveen Sood** has been appointed as the next Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Director for the next two years.

- The CBI Director is selected by a committee comprising the Prime Minister, CJI and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha for a fixed tenure of two years. The tenure can be extended up to five years.

- Praveen Sood will take over from current chief Subodh Kumar Jaiswal.

6. Pramod Bhasin appointed chairman of Data Security Council of India

- **Genpact founder Pramod Bhasin** has been appointed the new chairman of the Data Security Council of India (DSCI), effective April 1, 2023, the organisation announced Wednesday. Bhasin is currently also the chairman of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).

- He succeeds Rajendra S Pawar, the chairman and cofounder of NIIT Group. DSCI CEO Vinayak Godse.

7. Senior Advocate KV Viswanathan's Name Recommended By Collegium, In Line To Become 58th CJI

- Senior advocate KV Viswanathan, whose name was recommended by the collegium for judgeship in the Supreme Court, will become the **58th Chief Justice of India in August 2030 for a period of over nine months if the Centre gives the nod.**

- If the recommendation goes through, Viswanathan will join the elite list of lawyers who went on to become the CJI after being directly elevated.

- **Justice SM Sikri was the first CJI**, who was directly elevated to the apex court bench from the Bar. Justice UU Lalit was second in the list. Sitting apex court judge Justice PS Narasimha will become the third CJI who was directly elevated from the Bar.

- On the retirement of **Justice Jamshed Burjor Pardiwala on August 11, 2030**, Viswanathan would be in line to assume office as the Chief Justice of India till his retirement on May 25, 2031.

- The collegium, headed by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, in its meeting recommended two names -- **Andhra Pradesh High Court Chief Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra and Viswanathan -- to regain its full sanctioned strength of 34 judges, including the CJI.**

- Justice MR Shah and Justice Dinesh Maheshwari demitted office within a span of last two days, bringing the strength of the top court to 32 judges.

8. Manoj Soni takes oath as UPSC chairman

- Eminent educationist Manoj Soni took oath as the chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Soni, who joined the Commission as member on June 28, 2017, has been performing the duties of the UPSC chairman since April 5, 2022. He was administered the oath of office and secrecy as chairman, UPSC by Smita Nagaraj, senior most member in the Commission.

• About UPSC:

- o The UPSC conducts civil services examination to select officers of Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS) and Indian Police Service (IPS) among others.

- o The Commission is headed by a chairman and it can have a maximum of 10 members. There is still a vacancy of five members in the UPSC.

9. Dr K. Govindaraj Elected As New President of Basketball Federation of India.

- Dr K. Govindaraj elected as the President of International Basketball Federation (FIBA), Asia.

- **This is the first time that an Indian has been nominated as the President of FIBA Asia.**

- The nomination was ratified at the FIBA Asia Congress making Govindaraj, the first Indian to lead the International Basketball Federation in Asia, which includes 44 countries.

10. Sourav Ganguly appointed brand ambassador of Tripura tourism

- Cricket icon Sourav Ganguly was appointed the brand ambassador of Tripura tourism.

- As the brand ambassador of Tripura tourism, his participation in the campaigns would give an impetus to the state's tourism sector.

11. Praveen Kumar Srivastava sworn in as Central Vigilance Commissioner

- Praveen Kumar Srivastava was sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner. President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office to him at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

- Mr. Srivastava is a 1988-batch retired Indian Administrative Service officer of the Assam-Meghalaya cadre.

12. CAG Girish Chandra Murmu re-elected External Auditor of WHO for four year term

- The Comptroller and Auditor General of India, CAG, Girish Chandra Murmu has been re-elected as the External Auditor of the World Health Organisation (WHO) for a four-year term from 2024 to 2027.

- The CAG is already holding this position in the WHO since 2019 for a four-year term from 2019 to 2023.

13. Recep Tayyip Erdogan claims victory in Turkey's historical Presidential runoff

- In the historical runoff to the presidential elections, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan declared victory in

the polls that posed the biggest challenge to his 20 years of transformative but divisive rule.

- The official Anadolu state news agency showed the Islamic-rooted leader ahead of his secular opposition rival Kemal Kilicdaroglu by four percentage points.

14. Justice Ramesh Dhanuka sworn in as Chief Justice of Bombay High Court, to serve for tenure of 3 days

- Justice Ramesh Devkinandan Dhanuka was sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court.
- **Justice Dhanuka is due to demit office on May 30, upon attaining the age of 62, and will have a tenure as chief justice of three days, possibly the shortest.**

Awards

1. UK-Based Sanskrit Scholar MN Nandakumara Awarded Honorary MBE by King Charles

- A well-known UK-based Sanskrit scholar and the Executive Director of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan centre in London has been conferred an honorary MBE by King Charles III for services to Indian classical arts in Britain.
- Dr M.N. Nandakumara, who hails from the village of Mattur in Karnataka, has been associated with the Bhavan for 46 years.
- The honorary award, approved by the British monarch for foreign nationals for their contribution to public life, was confirmed by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) earlier this month and will be formally awarded at a ceremony at a later date.
- **The honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) has been conferred “for services to the teaching, performance and accessibility of Indian classical arts in the UK”.**
- The centre, registered as the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan with the Charity Commission in England, operates a series of classes including Yoga, Indian languages, dance and music. Before the COVID pandemic it had 900 students enrolled for its classes and while that number has since dipped somewhat due to a switch to online classes, its chief is confident of a boost in the coming months as he sees a growing interest among the youth in learning about Indian arts and culture.

2. 2023 Pulitzer Prizes: Winners Include Hernan Diaz, New York Times And AP

- This year's Pulitzer winners include Associated Press, the New York Times and authors Barbara Kingsolver and Hernan Diaz.
- **The Associated Press won two Pulitzer prizes for journalism, in public service and breaking news photography, for coverage of the Ukraine war that included images of Russia's siege of Mariupol. Omar by Rhiannon Giddens and Michael Abels, won the Pulitzer for music.**
- The New York Times was also honored with an international reporting award for its coverage of

Russian killings in the Ukrainian town of Bucha. Additional Pulitzers were given for work surrounding the US supreme court's decision overturning the Roe v Wade abortion standard, the government's policy of child separation at the border and welfare spending in Mississippi.

- The Washington Post's Caroline Kitchener won for “unflinching reporting” on the consequences of the abortion decision, including the story of a Texas teenager who gave birth to twins after new restrictions denied her an abortion. The Post's Eli Saslow won for feature writing.
 - The Los Angeles Times won for breaking news for its stories revealing a secretly recorded conversation with city officials making racist comments. The newspaper's Christina House won for feature photography, for her images of a 22-year-old pregnant woman living on the street.
 - The Pulitzer prize for fiction was awarded to two class-conscious novels: Demon Copperhead, Barbara Kingsolver's modern recasting of the Dickens classic David Copperfield, and Heman Diaz's Trust, an innovative narrative of wealth and deceit set in 1920s New York.
 - Beverly Gage's G-Man, her widely acclaimed book on longtime FBI leader J Edgar Hoover, was given the Pulitzer for biography. His Name Is George Floyd: One Man's Life and the Struggle for Racial Justice, by Robert Samuels and Toluse Olorunnipa, won for general nonfiction.
 - Sanaz Toossi's play English won for drama and Jefferson Cowie's Freedom's Dominion: A Saga of White Resistance to Federal Power was honored for history.
 - The Pulitzer for memoir or autobiography was given to Hua Hsu's coming-of-age story Stay True. One of the country's most highly regarded poets, Carl Phillips, won in poetry for Then the War: And Selected Poems, 2007-2020.
 - The public service prize winner receives a gold medal. All other winners receive \$15,000. The prizes were established in the will of the newspaper publisher **Joseph Pulitzer and first awarded in 1917.**
- ##### **3. Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar gets the first Astronomical Society of India Govind Swarup Lifetime Achievement Award in Pune**
- Jayant Narlikar, astronomer, the founding director of Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune and also a past president of the Astronomical Society of India (ASI) was awarded the first ASI Govind Swarup Lifetime Achievement award .
 - Though the award was announced earlier this year at the 41st meeting of the ASI held at IIT Indore, Prof. Narlikar was unable to travel to receive it. The President of the ASI, Prof. Dipankar Banerjee, was in

Pune to personally hand over the award to Prof. Narlikar and felicitate him.

- **The award is named in honour of Prof. Govind Swarup (1929-2020), widely regarded to be the founder of radio astronomy in the country.**

4. Cochin Port bags Sagar Shreshta Award of Ministry of Ports Shipping & Waterways for best performance

- Cochin Port has bagged Sagar Shreshta Award of Ministry of Ports Shipping & Waterways for best performance among all Indian Major Ports for best turnaround time in non-container port category, during the year 2022-23.

- The award is in recognition of the excellent performance of Cochin Port in handling dry bulk and liquid bulk cargo vessels.

5. Nigerian Author Arinze Ifeakandu Wins the 2023 Dylan Thomas Prize

- Nigerian writer Arinze Ifeakandu has won the 2023 Swansea University Dylan Thomas Prize, one of the world's largest literary prizes for young writers.

- **The winning work was his debut short story collection celebrating queer love in Nigeria titled God's Children Are Little Broken Things (2022).**

- The Swansea University Dylan Thomas Prize was launched in 2006 with the aim of celebrating and nurturing international literary excellence.

- It is named after the Swansea-born writer Dylan Thomas and is awarded for the best published literary work in the English language, written by an author aged 39 or under.

6. PM Sh. Narendra Modi conferred with Papua New Guinea, Fiji's highest honour

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred **Fiji's highest honour, the Companion of the Order of Fiji, in recognition of his global leadership. He has also been accorded the Companion of the Order of Logohu by Papua New Guinea.**

- Fiji's Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka presented PM Modi with a medallion for the title when the two leaders met in Papua New Guinea.

7. Goan writer Damodar Mauzo gets Jnanpith Award

- Panaji, May 28 (PTI) Goan writer Damodar Mauzo Goa has received the prestigious Jnanpith Award, the country's highest literary honour, from state Governor P S Sreedharan Pillai.

- Addressing a gathering after presenting the award, the governor said Mauzo is the 'epitome of the Konkani literary culture.'

- Mauzo's famous novel 'Karmelin' received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1983. The novel, published in 1981, has been translated in Hindi, Marathi, English, Punjabi, Sindhi, Tamil, Odia and Maithili languages.

- Mauzo is the second Goan to receive the Jnanpith Award. Earlier, Ravindra Kelekar from the coastal state got the award in 2008.

8. Hrithik Roshan and Alia Bhatt win the award for best actor at IIFA 2023.

- Hrithik Roshan won the award for Best Actor in a Leading Role (male) at the International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) 2023 held in Abu Dhabi. Alia Bhatt also won the award for Best Actor in a Leading Role (Female) for her role in the movie Gangubai Kathiawadi. for her role in the film Gangubai Kathiawadi.

- **Here's a list of all the award winners at IIFA 2023:** Best Film: Drishyam 2 Best Director: R Madhavan for Rocketry: The Nambi Effect Best Actor in a Leading Role (Female): Alia Bhatt for Gangubai Kathiawadi Best Actor in a Leading Role (Male): Hrithik Roshan for Vikram Vedha Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Female): Mouni Roy for Brahmastra: Part One - Shiva Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Male): Anil Kapoor for Jugg Jugg Jeeyo Outstanding Achievement for Fashion in Cinema: Manish Malhotra Outstanding Achievement in Indian Cinema: Kamal Haasan Best Adapted Story: Aamil Keeyan Khan and Abhishek Pathak for Drishyam 2 Best Original Story: Perviez Sheikh and Jasmeet Reen for Darlings Outstanding Achievement in Regional Cinema: Marathi film Ved directed by Riteish Deshmukh Best Debut (Male): Shantanu Maheshwari for Gangubai Kathiawadi and Babil Khan for Qala Best Debut (Female): Khushali Kumar for Dhoka Around the Corner Best Playback Singer (Female): Shreya Ghoshal for the song Rasiya from Brahmastra: Part One - Shiva Best Playback Singer (Male): Arijit Singh for the song Kesariya from Brahmastra: Part One - Shiva Best Music Direction: Pritam for Brahmastra: Part One - Shiva

Ranks & Reports

1. Future of Jobs Report 2023: Up to a Quarter of Jobs Expected to Change in Next Five Years

- Around a quarter of jobs are set to change in the next five years, according to a survey of employers published recently by the World Economic Forum (WEF), the organization known for its annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland.

- World Economic Forum Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

- Some 69 million jobs will be created and 83 million eliminated by 2027, it said, resulting in a net decrease of 2% of current employment, according to the Future of Jobs report.

- As per the report, Technology and digitalisation is both the driver of job creation and of destruction. "Advancing technology adoption and increasing digitization will also cause significant labour market chum.

- The job chum in India is seen to be largely in line with the global trend, with 22% job changes expected in the country by the employer-companies compared with global average of 23%.

2. Wayanad tops Swachh Bharat's ODF Plus rankings

- Wayanad has become the first district in the country to be declared ODF (open defecation-free) Plus.
- Wayanad district has come first in the ODF Plus rankings of the Swachh Bharat Mission in three-star category, **followed by Mancheriyal district in Maharashtra and Anupur in Madhya Pradesh.**
- While Wayanad scored 100 points in the ODF ranking, Manchaeriyal and Anupur got 90.45 and 88.79 points respectively, The ODF Plus scores of panchayats and districts were calculated on the basis of the ODF Plus progress report submitted by the villages till October 1, 2022.

3. India's ranking in World Press Freedom Index falls to 161 out of 180 nations

- India's ranking in the 2023 World Press Freedom Index has slipped to 161 out of 180 countries, according to the latest report released by global media watchdog Reporters Without Borders (RSF).
- **In 2022, India was ranked at 150.**
- The World Press Freedom Index evaluates countries based on five sub-indicators: Political, Economic, Legislative, Social, and Security indicators.
- India's rank in the Security indicator category is particularly concerning, as it has dropped to 172 out of 180 countries.
- This indicates that India ranks worse than all but eight countries when it comes to ensuring the safety of journalists.
- The countries that rank worse than India in terms of journalist safety are China, Mexico, Iran, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen, Ukraine, and Myanmar, in that order, with Myanmar at the bottom.

4. Karnataka ranked the most 'innovative' State by the National Manufacturing Innovation Survey

- A survey on the degree of innovation among manufacturing firms found that **Karnataka, overall, is the most 'innovative' State, followed by Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu (DNH&DD), Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.**
- Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu had the highest share of innovative firms at 46.18% ,39.10% and 31.90%, respectively.
- Odisha, Bihar, and Jharkhand reporting the lowest share of such firms at 12.78%, 13.47% and 13.71%, respectively.
- The findings are part of the National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22, a joint study by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), to evaluate the innovation performance of manufacturing firms in the India.

5. Nearly 30% of married Indian women face domestic violence, shows data

- According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), 2019-2021, **29.3 per cent of married Indian women between the ages of 18 and 49 have**

experienced domestic/sexual violence; 3.1 per cent of pregnant women aged 18 to 49 have suffered physical violence during their pregnancy.'

- In 2021, just 507 instances were registered across India under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, whereas 136,000 complaints were registered under Indian Penal Code Section 498A (cruelty by husband or his relatives).
- According to NFHS data, 87 per cent of married women who are victims of marital violence do not seek help.
- The United Nations defines gender-based violence as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life".
- The National Commission for Women said in 2020-21, it received 26,513 complaints from women, an increase of 25.09 per cent, compared with the 20,309 complaints registered in 2019-20, testifying to the global trend that during the pandemic, more women were victims of domestic violence than before..

6. Next five years are expected to be warmest period on record : UN

- The United Nations has warned that the next five years are expected to be the warmest period on record. The UN's World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said the combined effect of El Nino and greenhouse gases will cause temperatures to soar. **The World Meteorological Organization said, global temperatures are more likely to surpass 1.5 Celsius of warming by 2027.**
- It predicted that there is a 98-percent likelihood that at least one of the next five years will set a new record for warmth, with the entire period of 2023-2027 expected to be the warmest ever recorded. WMO Secretary-General Petteri Taalas said, a warming El Niño is expected to develop in the coming months, and this will combine with human-induced climate change to push global temperatures into uncharted territory.
- Global temperatures are soon set to exceed the more ambitious target set out in the Paris climate accords, with a two-thirds chance that one of the next five years will do so, the UN's weather body added. The hottest eight years ever recorded were all between 2015 and 2022 -- but temperatures are forecast to increase further as climate change accelerates.
- The 2015 Paris Agreement saw countries agree to cap global warming at 'well below' two degrees Celsius above average levels measured between 1850 and 1900 -- and 1.5 Celsius if possible. The global mean temperature in 2022 was 1.15 Celsius above the 1850-1900 average.

7. Uttar Pradesh govt top buyer of goods and services from GeM portal in FY23

- The **Uttar Pradesh government** and its agencies procured goods and services **worth Rs 12,152 crore** from the union commerce ministry's platform Government e-marketplace (GeM) during last fiscal year.
- It was **followed by Gujarat (Rs 7,964 crore), Maharashtra (Rs 4,130 crore), Jammu and Kashmir (Rs 1,999 crore) and Madhya Pradesh (Rs 1,983 crore).**
- Overall procurement of goods and services from GeM has crossed Rs 2 lakh crore this fiscal year on account of an increase in buying activities by different ministries, departments and states.
- The GeM portal was launched on August 9, 2016 for online purchases of goods and services by all the central government ministries and departments.
- GeM has over 63,000 government buyer organisations, over 6 crore sellers and service providers offering a wide range of products and services.
- Among central government ministries, the power ministry was the top buyer in 2022-23 from the platform.
- The ministry procured goods and services worth Rs 30,572.9 crore . It was followed by the defence ministry (Rs 28,741.2 crore), Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (Rs 28,157.2 crore), steel ministry (Rs 12,527.3 crore), and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Rs 7,158.3 crore).
- South Korea's KONEPS is the largest such platform in the world. Currently, GeM stands at the third position after Singapore's GeBIZ.

8. India Achieves 47 % growth in Coal Production during last Nine Years

- During the **last nine years, India's overall coal production has gone up by 47% to 893.08 Million Tonne (MT)** and supply has touched 877.74 Million tonne, recording 45.37% growth. Major leap in coal production of 893.08 MT in FY 2023 is the highest in the history of the country.
- Coking coal is mainly used in manufacturing of steel through blast furnace route.
- 'Mission Coking Coal' has been launched by the Government in August 2021, to come up with a roadmap that would suggest ways to augment the production and utilization of domestic coking coal in India by 2030.
- Domestic coking coal is high ash coal (mostly between 18%-49%) and is not suitable for direct use in the blast furnace. Therefore, coking coal is washed to reduce the ash percentage and Indian Prime and Medium Coking Coal (<18 % ash) is blended with imported coking coal (<9% ash) before utilization in the blast furnace.

9. 'AIRAWAT' ranks 75th in top 500 Supercomputing List

- The AI Supercomputer 'AIRAWAT', installed at C-DAC, Pune has been ranked 75th in the world.
 - It was declared so in the 61st edition of Top 500 Global Supercomputing List yesterday at the International Supercomputing Conference (ISC 2023) in Germany.
 - It puts India on top of AI Supercomputing nations worldwide.
 - **USA's Frontier is the most powerful supercomputer on TOP500.**
- ### 10. JioCinema breaks world record with over 3.2 cr viewers during IPL final
- JioCinema, the official digital streaming partner of IPL (Indian Premier League) 2023, has broken the world record for the most concurrent views to a live-streamed event on Monday as over 3.2 crore viewers witnessed the finale of this year IPL, featuring Chennai Super Kings versus Gujarat Titans.
 - During Qualifier 2 of the IPL 2023, JioCinema recorded over 2.57 crore concurrent viewers witnessing the sensational century by Shubhman Gill in the first innings between Gujarat Titans and Mumbai Indians.
 - Disney's Hotstar, the former digital streaming partner of the IPL, drew over 2.5 crore simultaneous viewers for a cricket match in July 2019, a record that stood unbroken for several years.

Important Days

1. Maharashtra Day 2023

- Maharashtra Day, commonly known as Maharashtra Diwas, is celebrated annually on May 1 to commemorate the day on which the western Indian state, Maharashtra was created in the year 1960.
- On this day in 1960, the Bombay Reorganisation Act came into effect, creating Maharashtra, following many protests and demonstrations in support of the new state.
- The Act created two new states out of the erstwhile Bombay State -- Maharashtra, for the Marathi-speaking people, and Gujarat, for those whose mother tongue is Gujarati.

2. International Labour Day 2023| 1st May

- May 1 is celebrated as a public holiday around the world to celebrate the contributions of workers on the International Labour Day.
- The day celebrates the struggles of workers around the world to create a workplace that recognises the dignity of labour.
- The first Labour Day was celebrated on May 1, 1889 as the International Workers Day. The celebrations were declared by an international federation of trade unions and socialist groups to commemorate the Haymarket Riot in Chicago.
- The riots are also known as the Haymarket Affair, which occurred in 1886. The riot started as a peaceful march that demanded an eight-hour workday but later turned into a violent clash between the protesters and the police forces.

3. Gujarat Day 2023| 1st May

- May 1 is observed as Gujarat Day, which monumentalizes the formation of Gujarat state in India. It also marks the day on which the Gujarati-speaking region was separated from the Marathi speaking region.
- The current state of Gujarat was a part of the Bombay State prior to 1960, which included present day Maharashtra and parts of present day Gujarat.
- However, there were significant cultural, linguistic and political differences between the people of Gujarat and Maharashtra.
- Later on, the Bombay State was finally divided into two states on May 1, 1960 called Maharashtra and Gujarat after the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960.

4. World Portuguese Language Day | 5 May

- World Portuguese Language Day, celebrated on May 5 every year, is dedicated to highlighting the Portuguese language.
- It plays a role in bringing the Portuguese people together and in preserving their culture and identity
- Portuguese is one of the most widespread languages in the world.
- It has more than 265 million speakers across the globe and is the most widely spoken language in the Southern Hemisphere.
- This makes the Portuguese language the sixth most spoken language in the world.

5. International Firefighters' Day | 4 May

- It is observed on May 4th every year to honour the firefighters who put their lives at risk when they go out on a call.
- The main purpose of celebrating this day is to thank firefighters for the services they all provide

6. World Athletics Day | 7 May

- World Athletics Day 2023 was celebrated on 7th May.
- The main objective of this day is to raise awareness about fitness among children and encourage young and school children to take up athletics.
- **The theme for World Athletics Day 2023 is Athletics for All - A New Beginning.**

7. World Thalassaemia Day | 8 May

- World Thalassaemia Day takes place on May 8 every year.
- It is dedicated to Thalassaemia patients who are battling an inherited disorder where the oxygen-carrying proteins in the blood are lesser than normal.
- In simpler words, the body fails to produce the required amount of haemoglobin.
- Hence, it is a day to create awareness regarding blood disease.
- In 1994, World Thalassaemia Day was established and organized by the Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF), a non-profit organisation which was founded in 1986 by Mr Panos Englezos, Thalassaemia patients and their parents who represented the National Thalassaemia Association in

the UK, USA, Greece, Italy and Cyprus. The day was first observed in memory of Mr Panos' son, George, who had died from the disease.

8. World Red Cross Day | 8 May

- World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is celebrated on May 8 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of the Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Henry Dunant.
- He was born on 8th May 1828 in Geneva and was the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.
- On this day the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement were celebrated.
- World Red Cross Day is also known as World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.
- It is dedicated to the people who suffer from the *shortage of food, several natural calamities, war as well as from and epidemic diseases.*

This year World Red Cross Day or Red Crescent Day will be celebrated on the theme "**Everything we do comes #fromtheheart**"

9. WORLD LUPUS DAY II 10 May

- World Lupus Day is a global healthcare event commemorated every year on May 10th to raise awareness about this critical condition; that calls for an in-depth understanding and support for each individual who has been impacted in addition to increase the funds for more research.
- Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease caused when the immune system attacks its own tissue, resulting in pain and inflammation of the body tissues.
- There are four various types of lupus: systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), cutaneous lupus erythematosus (CLE), drug-induced lupus, and neonatal lupus, where SLE is the most common one.
- Lupus is often described as an "invisible disease" as its symptoms might fluctuate and mimic those of other medical conditions such as fever, joint pain, skin rashes, and internal organ issues (kidney, heart, lungs and brain), leading to misdiagnosis of lupus condition.

10. National Technology Day | 11 May

- National Technology Day is celebrated every year on May 11.
- This day commemorates India's successful nuclear tests that were conducted on May 11th, 1998, at Pokhran, Rajasthan.
- It is a day to celebrate the achievements of Indian scientists and engineers who have contributed to the development of technology in various fields
- Every year, the Technology Development Board (TDB) selects a theme for each year's event.
- **This year the theme of the National Technology Day 2023 is 'School to Startups-Igniting Young Minds to Innovate**

11. International Nurses Day | 12 May

- International Nurses Day, recognised on May 12 every year, is a global celebration that honours the

invaluable contributions of nurses, promotes the nursing profession, and advocates for the well-being of nurses worldwide.

- It recognizes their dedication, compassion, and expertise in delivering quality healthcare services and shaping the future of healthcare.
- Every year, a specific theme is chosen, and for 2023, the theme for this year is **"Our Nurses. Our Future."**

12. International Day of Families | 15 May

- International Day of Families is celebrated on May 15 to raise awareness of the importance of families and their role in society.
- The day focuses on the important role that families play in our society while also highlighting the issues faced by them.
- The United Nations adopted a resolution in 1994 establishing the International Day of Families.
- **The theme of International Day of Families 2023 is 'Demographic Trends and Families'.**

13. UN Global Road Safety Week | 15- 21 May

- WHO, in collaboration with partners, organize periodic UN Global Road Safety Weeks. The 7th UN Global Road Safety Week takes place from 15-21 May.
- **The theme is sustainable transport**, and specifically the need for governments to facilitate a shift to walking, cycling and using public transport. Road safety is both a prerequisite for this shift to happen and an outcome of it.
- **The slogan is #RethinkMobility. The day is observed biennially.**

14. International Day of Living Together in Peace | 16 May

- In 2017, the UN General Assembly solidified its commitment to world peace by establishing May 16 as the International Day of Living Together in Peace, promoting inclusion, tolerance, solidarity.
- Every year the day is celebrated to promote peace, tolerance, inclusion, understanding, and solidarity among individuals and communities worldwide.

15. International Day of Light | 16 May

- International Day of Light was first introduced by the European Physical Society in 2015.
- The main agenda to introduce this day was to celebrate the crucial role of light-based technologies in our daily lives.
- Several organizations supported this proposal. It is observed every year to focus on the importance of light and its various applications.
- UNESCO took up the proposal and understood the importance of this day. It officially declared 16 May as the International Day of Light in 2017.
- This day was celebrated for the first time on 16 May 2018.
- **The theme for this year is "Light for the Future".**

16. National Dengue Day | 16 May

- On 16 May each year, National Dengue Day is observed.
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has officially announced the annual observance of National Dengue Day to create awareness and promote measures to prevent the disease.
- **The National Dengue Day theme for this year is "Fight Dengue, Save Lives".**
- Dengue fever is a viral disease which spreads through the bite of an infected mosquito. It is caused by the dengue virus (DENV).
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention around 4 billion people, about half of the world's population, live in regions where dengue is endemic.

17. World Telecommunication and Information Society Day | 17 May

- World Telecommunication Day is celebrated on May 17 by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The day highlights the impact of the Internet and other communication tools on society. The ITU attempts to bridge the internet gap. **The theme for 2023 is 'Empowering the least developed countries through information and communication technologies'.**
- On May 17, 1969, World Telecommunications Day was first observed to mark the founding of the ITU, originally called the International Telegraph Union. The ITU was established by the signing of the very first International telegraph Convention, on May 17, 1865, in Paris. It changed its name to International Telecommunication Union in 1932 and eventually became a specialised agency of the United Nations in 1947.

- The date, May 17, was also declared as World Information Society Day by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in a March 2006 resolution. In November of the same year, the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference clubbed the two days collectively as World Telecommunication and Information Society Day.

18. World Hypertension Day | 17 May

- World Hypertension Day is observed every May 17th in order to raise awareness and promote hypertension prevention, detection and control.
- World Hypertension League is an umbrella of organizations from 85 countries dealing with hypertension societies and leagues declared 17 May as the day.
- **The theme for 2023- 'Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer'.**
- High blood pressure is the main risk factor to develop cardiovascular disease.

19. International Museum Day | 18 May

- Every year, since 1977, the International Council of Museums (ICOM) has organized International Museum Day on 18 May raise awareness about the fact that, 'Museums are an important means of

cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples. **The theme for 2023 'Museums, Sustainability and Wellbeing'**

- Indian Museum, Kolkata, established in 1814, is the oldest and the largest museum in Asia.
- By size, The Louvre, in Paris, France is the largest museum on Earth, with nearly 73,000 square metres of exhibition space.
- Capitoline Museum, Rome, Italy is the world's oldest museum.

20. National Endangered Species Day | 19 May

- The third Friday of May is observed as the National Endangered Species Day. This year the National Endangered Species Day 2023 theme is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
- This day aims to raise awareness about the increasing number of animal species facing the risk of extinction. According to IUCN Red List India has a total of 199 critically endangered species.

21. World Metrology Day - 20 May

- To commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in 1875 in Paris, Metrology Day is celebrated each year.
- The Convention, also known as the Convention du Mtre, founded the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) and a unified system of measurement.
- **This year's theme is: Advancing Measurement Technologies for Sustainable Development.**
- During the convention, the metric system was established and International Prototype of the Kilogramme (IPK) was chosen as the standard unit of mass. Also, International Prototype of the Metre (IPM) was chosen as the standard unit of length.

22. World Bee Day | 20 May

- Every year, since 2018, May 20 has been celebrated as World Bee Day in **remembrance of Slovenian beekeeper Anton Jansa (1734-1773)**- who is regarded as the pioneer of modern beekeeping. Jansa was born on May 20, 1734.
- The main purpose behind the observance of World Bee Day is to acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators in the ecosystem.
- **2023 theme: Bee engaged in pollinator-friendly agricultural production**
- The idea for World Bee Day was proposed by the Government of Slovenia in 2016, supported by the International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations (Apimondia). The day was given approval by United Nations Member States in 2017. The inaugural observance of World Bee Day took place in 2018.

23. National Anti-Terrorism Day | May 21

- National Anti-Terrorism Day is observed in India on May 21 every year to raise awareness about the importance of combating terrorism and promoting peace and harmony in society.

- India observes National Anti-Terrorism Day on 21 May every year to commemorate the death of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

- **Gandhi, the sixth PM of India, was assassinated by LTTE in 1991.**

24. International Day for Biological Diversity | 22 May

- The International Day for Biological Diversity, celebrated each year on May 22, aims to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.
- Although it was originally celebrated in late December, the UN General Assembly later decided to move the date to 22 May, which commemorates the adoption of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1992.

- The theme of the International Day for Biological Diversity is **From agreement to action: build back biodiversity**

25. International Day to End Obstetric Fistula | 23 May

- Every year on May 23, the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is observed.
- It is a day dedicated to raising awareness and gathering support for obstetric fistula, a birth-related injury that disproportionately affects women in low-income regions.
- It is a hole in the birth canal caused by protracted labour, lack of medical intervention, and other factors during childbirth. According to the United Nations Population Fund (U.N.F.P.A.), obstetric fistula is among the most grievous and tragic birth-related injuries. In 2013, the United Nations (U.N.) observed the holiday for the first time.

26. WORLD TURTLE DAY | 23 May

- Every year on May 23, American Tortoise Rescue (ATR), a non-profit organisation, observes World Turtle Day.
- This event is intended to raise awareness about the need to maintain turtles, tortoises, and their increasingly disappearing habitats.
- This year's **World Turtle Day theme is 'I Love Turtles,'** emphasising the critical need to conserve these species.

27. World Thyroid Day 2023 | 25 May

- World Thyroid Day is observed every year on May 25 to educate people on thyroid diseases and be aware of the symptoms.
- The butterfly-shaped thyroid gland is situated at the front of the neck, under the voice box. Diseases of the thyroid gland are among the most abundant endocrine disorders worldwide, second only to diabetes.
- World Thyroid Day was first observed in 2007 by the members of the Thyroid Federation International.
- This global healthcare day was created to honour European Thyroid Association (ETA) which was formed in the year 1965.

28. International Missing Children's Day | 25 May

- International Missing Children's Day (IMCD), 25 May, is a day where people around the world commemorate the missing children who have found their way home, remember those who have been victims of crime, and continue efforts to find those who are still missing.
- The symbol for IMCD is the forget-me-not flower.
- The observance of May 25 as Missing Children's Day began in the United States in 1983. 25 May marks the anniversary of when six-year-old Etan Patz disappeared from a New York street corner on his way to school on 25 May 1979.

29. The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers | 29 May

- The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is held annually on May 29.
- It is an opportunity to appreciate the invaluable contribution of the uniformed and civilian personnel who work for the organization.
- The day honors over 4,000 peacekeepers who have lost their lives while serving under the U.N. flag since its inception in 1948.
- Officially established by the General Assembly of the U.N., the day marks the date when the first U.N. peacekeeping mission was named the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (U.N.T.S.O.) in 1948. It coincided with the year U.N.T.S.O. began operations in Palestine.

Summit & Conferences

1. Dubai to host inaugural Global Chess League

- The world's largest and first franchise-based chess league will be held in Dubai from June 21-July 2.
- The inaugural Global Chess League will feature six teams with six players each, including a minimum of two female players and one icon player per team.
- The six teams will compete in a round-robin format where each team will play 10 matches.

2. UAE govt launches 'Machines Can See 2023' Summit

- The UAE government launched the 'Machines Can See 2023' Summit, one of the international conferences in Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the whole region, taking place at the Museum of the Future in Dubai, in partnership between Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy, and Remote Work Applications Office and 'Machines Can See' company.
- The conference aims to bring together experts from around the world to discuss the future of AI and its potential in contributing to the UAE's vision of creating the next Silicon Valley.
- The summit was held at the Museum of the Future in Dubai and explored the current advancements of AI, its applications, and its future in the UAE and the rest of the world.

3. India hosted Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Goa

- Foreign ministers of eight member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meet in Goa on May 4-5. This meeting has set the stage for the SCO Leaders' Summit to be held in July in New Delhi.
- **The theme of India's Chairmanship of SCO in 2023 is 'SECURE-SCO'.**
- India became a member of the SCO in 2017
- SCO: HQ: Beijing, China; Secretary General: Zhang Ming.
- The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is an intergovernmental organization founded in Shanghai on 15 June 2001.
- The SCO currently comprises eight Member States (China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan), four Observer States interested in acceding to full membership (Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran, and Mongolia) and six "Dialogue Partners" (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Turkey).
- In 2021, the decision was made to start the accession process of Iran to the SCO as a full member, and Egypt, Qatar as well as Saudi Arabia became dialogue partners.
- The official languages of the SCO are Chinese and Russian.

4. MHA will organize 'G20 Conference on Crime and Security in the age of NFTs, AI and Metaverse' in Gurugram

- The Ministry of Home Affairs will organize 'G20 Conference on Crime and Security in the age of NFTs (Non Fungible Tokens), AI and Metaverse' on 13th and 14th July, 2023 in Gurugram, Haryana.
- The two day event will be held in partnership with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of External Affairs, National Security Council Secretariat.

5. Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya presided over the Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023

- The Chemicals and Petrochemicals Manufacturers' Association (CPMA) of India hosted the 41st edition of the Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023 (APIC 2023) in New Delhi on 18-19 May.
- **The theme of the event was 'Ushering in a Sustainable Future'.**
- The APIC is a broad-based petrochemical industry conference with membership from 7 partner countries. **APIC partner countries are: India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand.**
- Established 40 years ago in 1979 by Japan, Korea and Taiwan as the East Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference (EAPIC), it was rechristened as Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference (APIC) in 2000 with the inclusion of India, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. APIC is hosted annually on a rotational basis by the partner Country Associations.

6. G7 Japan Hiroshima Summit 2023: May 19th - 21st

- The **49th G7 summit** was held from 19 to 21 May 2023 in Hiroshima, Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi met Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky** on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Japan's Hiroshima.
- He also **unveiled a bust of Mahatma Gandhi in the Japanese city Hiroshima**, site of the world's first nuclear attack. Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida invited Modi to the G-7 Summit as a guest.
- The **42-inch tall bronze bust has been sculpted by Padma Bhushan awardee Ram Vanji Sutar**. The bust site, adjacent to the Motoyasu River, is close to the iconic A-Bomb Dome that is visited by thousands of people - locals and tourists alike - every day.
- Modi also held bilateral talks with his Japanese counterpart Kishida, focusing on ways to synergise efforts under G7 and G20 presidencies to deal with various global challenges.
- The G7 bloc comprises Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Canada and Italy, as well as the European Union.

7. Ministry of Education and World Bank organise a one of its kind workshop on School-to-Work Transition under the STARS Program

- The Ministry of Education and World Bank organised a one of its kind workshop on School-to-Work Transition under the STARS Program in **Mumbai**.
- The workshop focussed on discussion on a **Skill Gap analysis of the six STARS States and Uttar Pradesh along with convergence of vocational and skill**.
- The workshop was attended by the Secretaries of Education and Skill Department of the six STARS states i.e. **Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh** along with the State Project Directors of Samagra Shiksha, respective officers, and representatives from the World Bank.
- The STARS program builds on the long partnership between India and the World Bank (since 1994), for strengthening public school education and to support the country's goal of providing 'Education for All'. Prior to STARS, the Bank had provided a total assistance of more than \$3 billion towards this goal.

8. PM addresses 76th Session of the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the 76th Session of the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Shri Modi highlighted India's commitment to international cooperation and informed that the country shipped almost 300 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to over 100 countries including many countries from the Global South.

- **Theme of this year's Health Assembly is: WHO at 75: Saving lives, driving health for all.**

9. 2nd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting to begin in Bengaluru

- The Second Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting will begin in Bengaluru under G20 India Presidency.
- The three days event will be attended by 75 delegates from G20 countries, invitee countries and regional and international organisations.
- The first Trade and Investment Working Group meeting was held in Mumbai.

10. Shri Bhagwanth Khuba to inaugurate International Conference on Chemicals and Petrochemicals at New Delhi

- During India's presidency of G20, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals in association with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized B20 engagement at the International Conference on Chemicals and Petrochemicals: Sustainable Transitions through Greentech & Digitalization in New Delhi, India.
- The aim of the Conference is to improve the safety and sustainable ecosystem for chemicals and petrochemicals industry across the **four pillars of Decarbonization, Circular Economy, Biodiversity and Water Conservation**.
- The conference is an effort to promote sustainable development in chemical and petrochemical sector and to deliberate upon sustainable solutions of various issues being faced by the industry.

11. Three day Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting under G20 India Presidency concludes at Tehri

- The three day Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting under the G20 India Presidency concluded at Tehri, Uttarakhand.
- The delegates agreed on three high-level principles to prevent and combat corruption.

12. ICAI Dubai Organises Conclave on Emerging Standards on Auditing, Public Policy, and Crypto in Dubai

- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) recently organized a noteworthy conclave in Dubai, focusing on emerging standards in auditing, public policy, and the crypto industry.
- The event brought together experts, professionals, and policymakers to discuss and exchange insights on these crucial topics.

Science & Technology

1. First test launch of new low-cost star sensor developed from off-the-shelf components successfully conducted

- A new low-cost star sensor developed by astronomers from off-the-shelf components was recently launched by ISRO on board PSLV C-55.
- In its first-ever space test, the sensor, which is **mounted on the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM)**, is performing well, and the initial

data has now validated its design as well as its function.

- This novel low-cost sensor designed to quickly calculate where the satellite is pointing is being tested in space for the very first time.

2. World's First Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccine Gets FDA Nod

- The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on May 3, 2023, approved the world's first respiratory syncytial virus vaccine **called Arexvy manufactured by British pharmaceutical company GSK.**
- Arexvy is an adjuvanted respiratory syncytial virus vaccine, which means that it has an adjuvant, or an ingredient that helps create a stronger immune response to vaccination.
- It has been approved for use in individuals aged 60 years and above in the United States.

3. IIT Madras, DRDO Develop Cutting-Edge Underwater Sensor Technology

- Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) have partnered with Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) scientists to develop cutting-edge sensor technology for underwater communications, which will be advantageous to defence applications, especially in the Indian Navy.
- The indigenous development of this technology enables the nation to fabricate the devices at a relatively lower cost than the internationally-available foundries where the cost of fabrication is high and the number of foundries is also limited.
- The **'Piezoelectric MEMS technology'** is required to develop high-performance thin films and convert 'piezo thin film' into state-of-the-art futuristic naval sensors and devices for underwater applications.

4. India's First Commercial Flight Powered By Indigenous Sustainable Aviation Fuel Flies From Pune To Delhi

- India's first commercial passenger flight using indigenously produced Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) blend was successfully flown.
- An Air Asia flight powered by SAF blended aviation turbine fuel (ATF) flew from Pune to Delhi.
- The special flight was received by Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri at the airport.
- The SAF blended aviation turbine fuel (ATF) was produced by **Praj Industries Ltd** by using indigenous feedstock, supplied by **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL)** and used by **Air Asia.**
- This would be the First domestic commercial passenger flight with SAF blending up to 1 per cent as demonstration mode".
- "By 2025, if we target to blend 1 per cent SAF blending in Jet fuel, India would require around 14 crore litre of SAF/annum. More ambitiously, if we target for 5 per cent SAF blend, India required around 70 crore litre of SAF/ annum".

5. ISRO successfully launches its next-generation navigational satellite - NVS-1 from Sriharikota

- ISRO's GSLV f 12 rocket with NVS - 01 satellite was successfully launched at 10.42 from Sriharikota .
- **The rocket lifted off from the second launch pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre and injected NVS -01 satellite in its geosynchronous orbit.**
- ISRO Chairmam -Sreedhara Panicker Somanath
- The satellite weighing 2232 kilograms is the first of the second-generation satellites envisaged for the Navigation with Indian Constellation series.

6. India's AI Push: Microsoft launches 'Jugalbandi', AI-based multilingual chatbot for rural India

- **Microsoft unveiled Jugalbandi**, a multilingual chatbot powered by generative AI, which can be accessed through the popular messaging platform WhatsApp.
- The chatbot has been specifically designed to serve rural areas in India that have limited media access and lack information about government welfare activities.
- **Developed in collaboration with AI4Bharat and IIT Madras, Jugalbandi aims to provide personalized assistance by understanding user queries in multiple languages, whether spoken or typed.**
- The chatbot retrieves information from relevant programs, which are often available only in English, and presents it back to users in their local language.
- **The chatbot was launched in April and has undergone testing in Biwan, a village near New Delhi, India's capital city**

Defence

1. DRDO & Indian Navy conduct successful maiden test trial of indigenous Air Droppable Container 'ADC-150'

- Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Navy conducted the successful maiden test trial of 'ADC-150' from IL 38SD aircraft off the coast of Goa.
- **ADC-150' is an indigenously designed and developed Air Droppable Container with 150 kg payload capacity.**
- The trial was conducted to enhance the naval operational logistics capabilities by providing quick response to meet the requirement of critical engineering stores to ships (under distress), which are deployed more than 2,000 kms from the coast.
- It reduces the requirement of ships to come close to the coast to collect spares and stores.

2. BRO organizes a Multi-modal Expedition 'EKTA EVAM SHRADHANJALI ABHIYAAN' as part of 64th BRO Day celebrations

- To commemorate the sacrifices and contribution of its Karmyogis in nation building, Border Roads Organisation (BRO) organised 'Ekta Evam Shradhanjali Abhiyan', a multi modal expedition as a part of 64th BRO Day Celebrations.

- Expedition team comprises of Motor Cycles and Motor cars which started from North East and Northern part of the country.
- Expedition members from 18 Projects have collected Soil, Water and Saplings from 108 remote border locations and the same will be planted at BRO Alma Mater, BRO School and Centre, Pune.

3. Maiden ASEAN-India Maritime exercise starts in Singapore

- Two frontline warships of the Indian Navy INS Satpura and INS Delhi arrived in Singapore to participate in the inaugural edition of the ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise.
- The ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023) will provide an opportunity to the Indian Navy and ASEAN navies to work closely with each other and conduct seamless operations in the maritime domain.
- With AIME-2023 India becomes the 4th ASEAN dialogue partner, after Russia, China and the US to hold the ASEAN+1 maritime exercise in which navies of the Philippines, Cambodia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, and Brunei, will be participating.

4. Army holds 'Buland Bharat' exercise in Arunachal to test synergy in simulated war conditions

- The armed forces have carried out an integrated surveillance and firepower training exercise known as Buland Bharat to test 'simulated war conditions in high altitude area' at the **Mandala High Altitude Firing Ranges in Arunachal Pradesh** even as tensions continue to prevail along the Line of Actual Control with China.
- The exercise validated plans for bringing down integrated firepower by orchestrating synchronised firing by artillery guns and fire support components of the infantry, aimed toward the destruction of designated targets.

5. 35TH EDITION OF INDO-THAI COORDINATED PATROL (CORPAT)

- The 35th edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy was conducted from 03 - 10 May 2023.
- The 35th Indo-Thai CORPAT is another step towards enhancing the Indian Navy's efforts to consolidate interoperability and forge strong bonds of friendship between India and Thailand.
- As part of the Government of India's vision of SAGAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region), the Indian Navy has been proactively engaging with the countries in the Indian Ocean Region towards enhancing regional maritime security.

6. India-Indonesia bilateral exercise 'Samudra Shakti-23'

- INS Kavaratti, indigenously designed & built ASW Corvette, arrived at Batam, Indonesia to participate in

the **4th edition of India-Indonesia Bilateral exercise Samudra Shakti-23** from 14-19 May 23.

- Samudra Shakti -23 will showcase the high level of interoperability between the two navies and their shared commitment towards peace and stability in the region.
- An Indian Navy Dornier Maritime Patrol aircraft and Chetak helicopter is also participating.
- The Indonesian Navy will be represented by KRI Sultan Iskandar Muda, CN 235 Maritime Patrol Aircraft and AS565 Panther Helicopter.

7. Govt imposes import ban on 928 defence items in self-reliance push

- With the aim of promoting *aatmanirbharta* (self-reliance) in weaponry and defence equipment and minimise imports by defence public sector undertakings (DPSUs), the Ministry of Defence (MoD) promulgated a list of **928 strategically important spares and components that would face curbs on their import**.
- This so-called **4th Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) will include Rs 715 crore worth** of high-end materials and spares, the import of which will be permitted only until a date specified for each. After each one's import deadline elapses, it will have to be procured from the Indian industry.
- This fourth PIL list follows the earlier PILs, which restricted the import of a range of line-replaceable units (LRUs), sub-systems, assemblies, spares, and components of defence systems.
- The 1st PIL comprising 101 items, was promulgated in August 2020. The 2nd PIL comprising 108 items, was promulgated in May 2021. The 3rd PIL comprising 101 items, was promulgated in April 2022.
- The MoD has also notified three PILs as regards DPSUs, comprising 3,738 major LRUs, sub-systems, assemblies, spares, and components, each with an embargo on their import from defined timelines.
- Further, more than 26,000 defence items have been uploaded on MoD's Srijan defence portal and offered to the industry for indigenisation. So far, 7,031 items have been indigenised, catering to domestic and global markets.

8. Supersonic Cruise Missile 'Brahmos' Successfully Test-Fired From INS Mormugao

- A BrahMos supersonic cruise missile was successfully test-fired from the Indian Navy's frontline guided missile destroyer INS Mormugao.
- BrahMos is an India-Russian joint venture, produces the supersonic cruise missiles that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft, or land platforms. It flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach or almost three times the speed of sound.

9. Indian Army conducts Flood Relief Exercise Jal Rahat in Assam

- Gajraj Corps of the Indian Army conducted a Joint Flood Relief 'Exercise Jal Rahat' at Hagrama Bridge

on Manas River, Assam to validate joint drills and coordinate preparedness by multi-agency flood relief columns.

- SSB, National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) and police representatives took part.

10. Indian Navy's sixth and final Kalvari Class Submarine, Vaghsheer commences sea trials

- The Indian Navy's sixth and final Kalvari class submarine, Vaghsheer, has begun its sea trials. Vaghsheer is scheduled for delivery to the Indian Navy in early 2024 after completion of these trials.
- The submarine was launched on 20th April 2022 from the Kanhoji Angre Wet Basin of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL).
- The commissioning of the submarine, *built under Project-75*, is set to enhance the Navy's combat capability at a time when China has been increasing its presence in the Indian Ocean region. Project - 75 includes indigenous construction of 6 submarines.

11. Defence production crosses one lakh crore rupees mark for the first time ever in Financial Year 2022-23

- The value **currently stands Rs 1,06,800 crore** and it will go further up once the data is received from the remaining private defence industries.
- The current value of defence production in FY 2022-23 is a rise of more than 12 per cent over FY 2021-22, when the figure was Rs 95,000 crore.

Obituary

1. 2016 Olympic Gold Medallist Tori Bowie Dies At 32

- Tori Bowie, an American sprinter and long jumper who won **three Olympic medals** and two world titles in the sport, died at the age of 32.
- Bowie, who also won an Olympic 200m bronze and gold in the 4x100m relay at the Rio Games.
- She also bagged the gold medal in the 100-meter race and the 4x100-meter relay at the 2017 World Championships

2. 'Queen of Rock' Tina Turner Dies Aged 83

- Tina Turner, widely known as the 'Queen of Rock 'n' Roll' died on May 24 at the age of 83.
- The US-born, Swiss-naturalised singer passed away in her home near Zurich after a long illness.
- She was among the biggest recording artists of all time.
- Among her biggest hits were 'What's Love Got to Do with It' and '(Simply) The Best.'

Person in news

1. Cristiano Ronaldo tops Forbes highest-paid athletes list in 2023 after Saudi move

- Cristiano Ronaldo became the **world's highest-paid athlete after his move to Saudi Arabia side Al-Nassr** nearly doubled his annual playing salary while Paris St Germain duo **Lionel Messi and Kylian**

Mbappe round off the top three, according to Forbes.

- Ronaldo, who joined the Saudi soccer club on a deal until 2025 after leaving Manchester United last year, earned \$136 million. Ronaldo signed with Al Nassr until 2025 on a reported \$200 million per year contract.
- *Forbes* reported that the 38-year-old Ronaldo earned \$136 million, with his annual playing salary going up to an estimated \$75 million.
- PSG forward Messi, 35, was next on the list after bringing home a combined \$130 million while club teammate and France captain Mbappe – the youngest on the list at 24 – earned \$120 million to sit third.
- Los Angeles Lakers player and NBA great LeBron James (\$119.5 million) and Mexican boxer Saul "Canelo" Alvarez (\$110 million) rounded out the top five.
- *Forbes* said its on-field earnings figures include all prize money, salaries and bonuses earned in the past 12 months while off-field earnings are an estimate of sponsorship deals, appearance fees, licensing income and cash returns from businesses they operate.

2. Alia Bhatt named the first Indian Global Ambassador for Gucci

- Alia Bhatt has been named the first Indian global ambassador for Gucci, the Italian luxury house.
- The actor, producer and entrepreneur will make her first public appearance as Gucci's ambassador at the Gucci Cruise 2024 runway show at the Gyeongbokgung Palace in Seoul.

3. Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran Conferred With France's Highest Civilian Award

- Tata Sons Chairman **Natarajan Chandrasekaran was conferred "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour)** by French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna.
- N Chandrasekaran was felicitated with the highest French civilian award for his contribution in strengthening and building business between India and France.
- Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI) in partnership with Business France, held the 5th edition of its flagship event, the Indo-French Business Awards (IFBA) and Grand Prix VIE in the presence of H.E. Mr Édouard Philippe, former Prime Minister of France and Mayor, Le Havre as Guest of Honour.

4. Mukesh Ambani named as member of advisory committee of COP28

- Mukesh Ambani, CEO of Indian conglomerate Reliance Industries, has been selected as a member of the international advisory committee for the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28).

- The panel features **31 experts** from across the global south who are policy makers, finance executives, and sustainability leaders, among others.

India & World

1. India, Russia explore accepting RuPay and Mir cards for easy payments

- In the latest meeting of the Internal Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC), India and Russia have agreed to explore the possibility of accepting each other's payment cards, **RuPay (India) and Mir (Russia), for hassle-free payments between the two countries.**
- Mutual acceptance of RuPay and Mir cards will facilitate transactions in Indian rupees and Russian rubles, making it easier for citizens of both countries to carry out cross-border payments.
- Both countries also agreed to explore the adoption of the Russian financial messaging system, the Services Bureau of Financial Messaging System of the Bank of Russia, for cross-border payments.
- Currently, overseas payments from India and Russia are made through the SWIFT network, and exploring alternative payment options is necessary to minimize the impact of sanctions imposed on Russia by the West.

2. Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar In London For King's Coronation

- Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar was accorded a warm welcome as he arrived in London to attend the majestic Coronation ceremony of King Charles III at Westminster Abbey.
- Dhankhar, accompanied by his wife Dr Sudesh Dhankhar, will join an estimated 100 Heads of State and government from around the world invited to the historic crowning of Britain's new monarch.

3. PM Modi To Be Guest Of Honour At France's Bastille Day Parade

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi will be the guest of honour at France's traditional military parade**, held during Bastille Day on July 14.
- PM Modi's visit coincides with the 25th anniversary of the 'strategic partnership' between France and India.
- **Bastille Day is named after the fall of a fortress that symbolised the French revolution of 1789.**
- PM Modi will be **2nd Indian PM to be the guest of honour after Manmohan Singh in 2009.**
- French heads of state have been the Republic Day guests of honour five times since 1951.

4. Direct Shipping Service between Tuticorin to Maldives flagged off at V.O. Chidambaranar Port.

- At a ceremony held, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shantanu Thakur flagged off the vessel '**M.V. MSS Galena**' from V.O. Chidambaranar Port, as the Direct Shipping Service between Tuticorin to Maldives.

- *The rotation of this shipping service is Tuticorin ' Male ' Tuticorin, and is scheduled to make 3 calls a month.*

- During the visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Maldives in June 2019, Prime Minister of India & President of Maldives dwelt on the need to improve connectivity between India & Maldives through establishment of enabling infrastructure, which shall also give impetus to bilateral trade between two countries.

5. Border Haat between India and Bangladesh inaugurated at Bholaganj in Sylhet

- A new border-haat between India and Bangladesh was inaugurated in Bholaganj under Companiganj upazila of Sylhet.
- This is the **fourth border-haat in Sylhet** division out of which three are currently functional.
- Three more border haats are planned to be opened in the Sylhet division.

6. 1st India-EU Trade and Technology Council meeting was held in Brussels

- The first ministerial-level meeting of the India-EU trade and technology council (TTC) took place on May 16 in **Brussels.**
- India and the European Union will cooperate on quantum and high-performance computing research and development projects to help address challenges including climate change.
- The **next ministerial meeting** is planned for **early 2024 in India.**

7. India's public sector Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam to develop second hydropower project Arun-4 worth Rs 4,900 cr in Nepal

- Nepal has decided to allow India's Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Limited to develop a second hydropower project in the country.
- At present SJVN is developing a 900-MW Arun -III hydroelectric project, a run-of-river located on the Arun River in Eastern Nepal, scheduled to be completed in 2024
- A meeting of the Investment Board Nepal (IBN) chaired by Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda approved the draft project development agreement (PDA) to be signed with India's state-owned SJVN **to develop the 669-megawatt (MW) Lower Arun Hydropower project in eastern Nepal worth Rs.4900 crore.**

8. New Liberation War Gallery Inaugurated at the Indian Cultural Centre in Dhaka

- A new 1971 Liberation War Gallery was inaugurated at the Indian Cultural Centre of the High Commission of India in Dhaka.
- A number of liberation war fighters, Bir Muktijoddhas, and distinguished guests, including a number of eminent personalities of Bangladesh, representatives from cultural and academic spheres of Bangladesh, youth took part in the inaugural programme.

Environment

1. National Green Tribunal Levies Rs 4,000 Crore Environmental Compensation On Bihar

- National Green Tribunal has levied Rs 4,000 crore in environmental compensation on Bihar **for failing to scientifically manage solid & liquid waste.**
- NGT noted that there was legacy waste of more than 11.74 lakh metric tonnes as well as unprocessed urban waste of 4072 metric tonnes per day, & the gap in liquid waste generation and treatment was 2,193 million litres per day.
- NGT: Chairperson:AK Goel; Principal Place of sitting New Delhi.
- The National Green Tribunal was established on 18.10.2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010.
- The Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.
- New Delhi is the Principal Place of Sitting of the Tribunal and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai shall be the other four place of sitting of the Tribunal.

2. Cyclone 'Mocha' Intensifies Into Severe Cyclonic Storm

- Cyclonic storm Mocha intensified into a severe cyclonic storm and is very likely to turn into a very severe cyclonic storm over the central Bay of Bengal.
- The system is likely to move north-northeast wards and intensify into a very severe cyclonic storm during the next few hours over the Central Bay of Bengal, packing winds of up to 135 kmph.
- It made landfall on 14 May in Myanmar, near the border with Bangladesh.
- **Cyclone Mocha (pronounced Mokha) has been named by Yemen after its Red Sea port city.**

Apps & Portals

1. UGC launches 'CU-Chayan', a unified faculty recruitment portal for central universities

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) has launched a new portal named '**CU-Chayan**' for **faculty appointments in central varsities.**
- The portal will offer a range of features including a consolidated listing of job openings across all participating universities.
- Applicants will have a single login for applying to any of the universities, and personalised dashboards to help manage the application process.
- The commission has also asked all CUs to deactivate their recruitment portal. The commission will be maintaining this portal for the benefit of all the CUs and is not a centralised recruitment process for all central universities.

2. Union Health Ministry launches SAKSHAM Learning Management Information System

- Shri Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary launched the SAKSHAM (Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management), a

Learning Management Information System (LMIS) of MoHFW.

- This digital learning platform has been developed by the National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW), New Delhi.
- **SAKSHAM is a dedicated and unified platform for providing online training and medical education to all health professionals in the country.**
- This digital learning platform will ensure inclusive capacity building of health professionals from primary health centres located in rural and remote areas all the way up to tertiary care and corporate hospitals in metropolitan cities.

3. Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav launches mobile application Meri LiFE

- Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Minister Bhupender Yadav launched a mobile application, called Meri LiFE (My life) in New Delhi.
- *This app is inspired by the concept of LiFE, envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at COP 26, which emphasizes mindful and deliberate utilization instead of mindless and wasteful consumption.*
- Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) was launched by the Prime Minister in October 2022 at Kevadia, Gujarat and focuses on bringing about behaviour changes in individuals through simple easy to do actions.

4. UGC launches redesigned user-friendly website, two portals

- University Grants Commission(UGC) launched the redesigned UGC website, **UTSAH (Undertaking Transformative Strategies and Actions in Higher Education) and POP (Professor of Practice Portal) portals.**
- UTSAH will serve as a comprehensive platform providing detailed information about UGC's initiatives for qualitative reforms in higher education. UGC: Chairman: M Jagadesh Kumar; HQ: New Delhi.
- The Professor of Practice Portal is an innovative initiative by UGC, aimed at bridging the gap between academia and industry.
- This portal will serve as a platform for industry professionals to interact with faculty members and students, providing valuable insights and real-world knowledge.
- The Portal is expected to bring new perspectives and expertise into the academic sphere and help students gain practical knowledge and skills that are relevant to the industry.
- University Grants Commission is a statutory body set up by the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, in accordance to the UGC Act 1956 a

5. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav Launches Sanchar Saathi Portal

- Union Minister for Communications Ashwini Vaishnaw launched a Citizen Centric Portal named Sanchar Saathi Portal at a function in New Delhi through which mobile users can now track and block their lost mobile phones.

- The **Sanchar Saathi Portal is an initiative of the Department of Telecommunications.**

- **3 modules have been added to the portal - CIER, Know Your Mobile and ASTR.**

- It empowers the citizens by allowing them to know the mobile connections issued in their names, get the connections not required by them disconnected and to block and trace the lost mobile phones.

- *The first module, Central Equipment Identity Register(CIER) has been introduced for blocking stolen or lost mobiles, the second module is Know your mobile connections and the third module – Artificial Intelligence and Facial Recognition powered Solution for Telecom SIM Subscriber Verification(ASRR), will identify fraudulent subscribers.*

- Through the use of Sanchar Saathi portal, more than 40 Lakh fraudulent connections have been identified and more than 36 Lakh such connections have been disconnected so far.

Agri-Business

1. Cabinet nod for Rs.1.08 lakh crore kharif fertilizer subsidy

- The Union Cabinet decided not to increase fertiliser rates and approved a crop-nutrient subsidy of Rs 1.08 lakh crore for the June-September kharif or summer-sown season. For 2023-24, the Union budget in February allocated Rs 1.75 lakh crore, but even though fertilizer rates have stabilized, actual full-year spending could cross Rs 2 lakh crore again.

2. India's fish production touches a record 162.48 lakh tons per annum in 2021-22: Shri Parshottam Rupala

- From a mere **7.5 lakh tons in 1950-51**, India's total fish production has reached a record **162.48 lakh tons per annum in 2021-22**, with a 10.34% growth in fish production in 2021-22 in comparison to 2020-21.

- Today, India is the **3rd largest fish producing country** with about 8% share in global fish production.

- **It stands 2nd in aquaculture production.**

- The growth of inland fish production, predominantly propelled by aquaculture, has been even more spectacular. From mere 28.23 lakh tons per annum in 2000-01, the inland fish production stood at 121. 21 lakh tons per annum in 2021-22, a staggering 400 percent increase.

- In fact, the inland fisheries and aquaculture production of the country has almost doubled since 2014.

FinTech

1. Zoom gets pan-India telecom licence

- Web conference company Zoom Video Communications (ZVC) has secured a pan-India telecom licence that **will enable it to offer telephone services as well to enterprise customers.**

- With these licences, the company will be able to offer its cloud-based private branch exchange (PBX) service 'Zoom Phone' to multinational corporations (MNCs) and businesses operating in India.

States/UT's

Assam

1. Assam bilingual Braille dictionary is world's largest lexicon

- The 21-volume Braille version of the Assamese-English dictionary **Hemkosh** has become the world's largest lexicon.

- The authorities of the Guinness World Records **handed over a certificate to Jayanta Baruah, the publisher.**

- *The 123-year-old dictionary is the first etymological dictionary of the Assamese.*

Chhattisgarh

1. In A First In India, Chhattisgarh's Gevra Coal Mine Records 50 Million Tonne Production

- The Gevra Mega project in Chhattisgarh recently became the first mine in the country to achieve 50 Million Tonne (MT) of coal production annually.

- The feat is quite remarkable, considering the fact that no Indian mine, until now, has produced more than 50 million tonne of coal in a year.

Himachal Pradesh

1. World Bank Grant To Help Set Up Integrated Road Safety Enforcement System In Shimla, Nurgpur

- The World Bank has approved a grant of **Rs 51 crore** to set up an integrated road safety enforcement system in Shimla and Nurgpur police districts and develop the Palampur-Sheela chowk in Kangra as a 'safe corridor. For the first phase of the project, Shimla and Nurgpur have been selected, and a sum of Rs 42 crore will be spent to strengthen their emergency response.

- The project envisages the establishment of a traffic enforcement control room in Shimla and the allocation of funds for interceptors and patrol vehicles, an intelligent traffic management system, artificial intelligence (AI) cameras, and rescue equipment, they said.

Karnataka

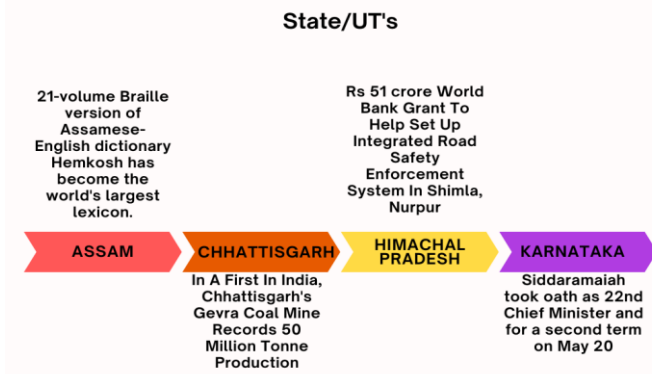
1. Siddaramaiah to take oath as Chief Minister for a second term on May 20

- The Congress party formally named Siddaramaiah as the Chief Minister of Karnataka, along with DK Shivakumar as the Deputy CM.

- The swearing-in ceremony of CM designate was held at Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru.

- He previously **led the government in 2013 for a full term becoming the third CM in the state's history to do so.**

- Siddaramaiah, became the **first CM of Karnataka to serve a complete five-year term between 2013 and 2018 in the last 40 years**. He was also only the third chief minister to do so in the state's history after Devaraj Urs and S Nijalingappa. *If Siddaramaiah completes a full five-year term for a second time he will create a record of becoming the longest-serving CM of Karnataka.*



Kerala

1. Kerala launches KIRF; India's first state to launch its own institutional framework

- The Kerala government has launched its own ranking system for higher education institutes taking a cue from the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
- A state-level methodology has been adopted to assess and rank higher education institutions, for which a **key parameter used would be 'Scientific Temper and Secular Outlook(STSO)'**.
- Besides "Scientific Temper and Secular Outlook (STSO)", the performance parameters are organised into four other broad heads including Teaching, Learning & Resources (TLR), Knowledge Dissemination and Research Excellence (KDRE), Graduation Outcome (GO), and Outreach and Inclusivity (OI), officials said.

2. Kerala Becomes First State To Have Drone Surveillance In All Police Districts

- Kerala has become the first state in the country to have a drone surveillance system in all police districts in the state.
- Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan distributed the drones to all police districts and the drone pilot licences to the specially trained drone pilots.
- *Kerala is the first state to develop a drone forensic lab and an anti-drone system at the state level.*

3. Kerala government approves ordinance amending Hospital Protection Act 2012, stringent penal provisions added

- Exactly a week after the murder of doctor Vandana Das, the State Cabinet approved the ordinance, amending the **Kerala Healthcare Service Persons and Healthcare Service Institutions (Prevention of Violence & Damage to Property) Act, 2012**, by

including stringent penal provisions against the perpetrators of violence against hospitals & expanded definition of healthcare workers.

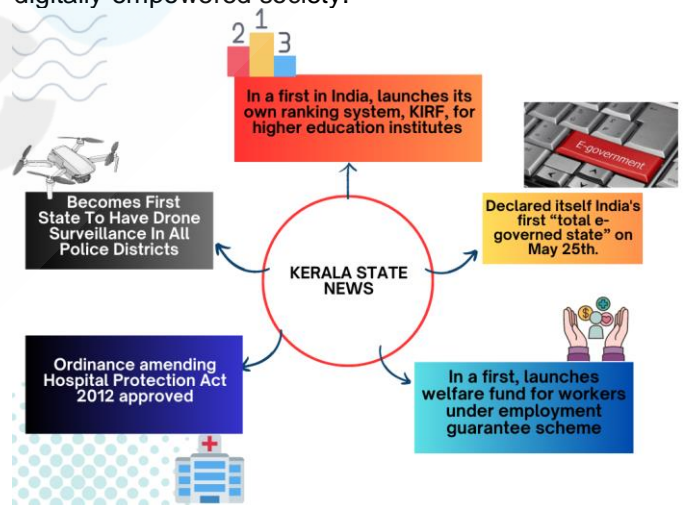
4. In a first, Kerala launches welfare fund for workers under employment guarantee scheme

- In a first in the country, the Kerala government launched a welfare fund for Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme workers in the State. Launching the initiative, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the workers **who have completed the age of 60 will be entitled for pension under the fund which will also provide financial assistance for medical, education etc.**

- The welfare fund has been formed as per the Kerala Employment Guarantee Workers' Welfare Fund Act, 2021.

5. Kerala to be first fully e-governed state

- Kerala is set to declare itself India's first 'total e-governed state'.
- The achievement, which comes decades after Kerala became the first fully-literate state and began its quest to become a fully e-literate society, has been realised through a set of policy initiatives of the government seeking to transform the state into a digitally-empowered society.



Maharashtra

1. Sachin Tendulkar Appointed As 'Smile Ambassador'

- Sachin Tendulkar has been appointed as Maharashtra's **'Smile Ambassador' for the state's Swachh Mukh Abhiyan**. Maharashtra records the highest number of oral cancer cases in the country.
- Sachin Tendulkar was appointed as "Smile Ambassador" for Maharashtra's Swachh Mukh Abhiyan (SMA), **Swachh Mukh Abhiyan is an initiative aimed at promoting oral hygiene across the state**, In the presence of Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the cricketing legend.

2. Maharashtra farmers to get Rs 6,000 per annum under new scheme approved by state cabinet

- The Maharashtra government has approved a new financial scheme under which more than one crore farmers in the state will be paid 6,000 rupees annually.
- The scheme, **Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Yojana**, was approved at a Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde in Mumbai
- The Maharashtra Cabinet also approved implementation of **'Gender Inclusive Tourism Policy called 'Aai' to empower women in the tourism sector**. Similarly, approval was also given to start women's bike-taxi services at some tourist spots in the State.

Rajasthan

1. New Lithium deposits discovered in Rajasthan after J-K

- After Jammu and Kashmir, lithium reserves have been traced in **Rajasthan's Degana**.
- It is said that lithium reserves are **higher than the ones recently found in Jammu and Kashmir**.
- This was the first significant mineral discovery in India, as previously only a small reserve had been discovered in Karnataka.
- Since lithium is a key component of batteries used in electric vehicles, the government is searching for rare metal reserves both within and outside the country.

Tamil Nadu

1. Tamil Nadu Food Safety Department opens portal for grievances

- The Health minister of Tamil Nadu launched the mobile app **'Tamil Nadu Food Safety Consumer'** and website www.foodsafety.tn.gov.in where **consumers can find information on safe food and other details**.
- The website can be accessed in Tamil and English and also has a screen reader facility for ease of access for the differently-abled.

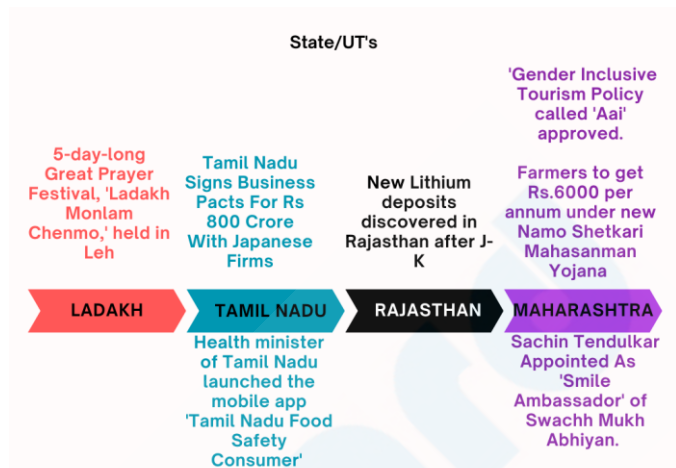
2. Tamil Nadu Signs Business Pacts For Rs 800 Crore With Japanese Firms

- A total of **six MoUs envisaging Rs 818.90 crore** investments in the fields of **automotive spares, metals used in space, defence and construction, as well as construction engineering** were signed in Tokyo in the presence of Chief Minister MK Stalin.
- As part of the MoUs, the companies will invest in various parts of Tamil Nadu including in Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur districts.

Ladakh

1. Ladakh annual festival 'Monlam Chenmo' begins in Leh

- The **annual five-day-long Great Prayer Festival, 'Ladakh Monlam Chenmo,'** a mass prayer camp by Buddhist monks and nuns for world peace and happiness started in Leh, Ladakh.
- Noteworthy to mention that the Festival falls on 21st to 25th days of the third month of the Tibetan lunar calendar and it has been **held since 1991**.



Uttar Pradesh

1. Uttar Pradesh becomes first state to make digital health cards for children

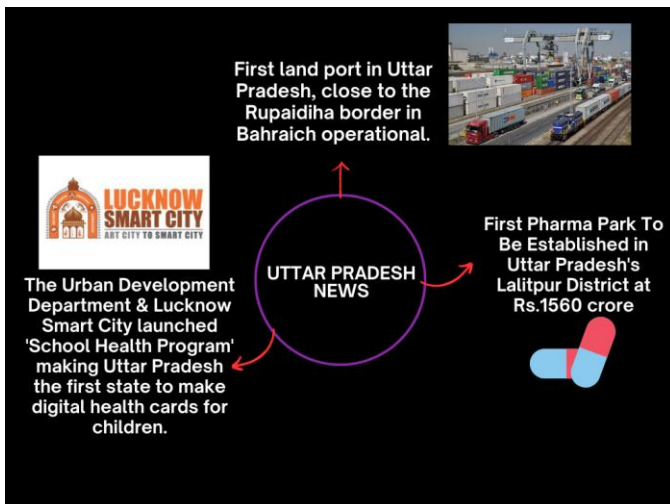
- The **Urban Development Department and Lucknow Smart City** launched **'School Health Program'** making Uttar Pradesh the first state to make digital health cards for children.
- Under the pilot project, the School Health Program has been started by Lucknow Smart City in three schools in Lucknow.
- A digital health report card for the overall physical and mental well-being of 1765 municipal school students is also being prepared under the project.
- Along with this, the benefit of health insurance worth Rs 25,000 is also being given to these children.
- The program is likely to be implemented in the state's other 9 smart cities also after the successful completion of the pilot project.

2. First Pharma Park To Be Established in Uttar Pradesh's Lalitpur District

- The Uttar Pradesh government has recently approved the establishment of the **state's first Pharma Park in the Lalitpur district of Bundelkhand**.
- The government has allocated a budget of **Rs 1560 crore** for the development and provision of necessary facilities to investors in **Lalitpur Pharma Park**.
- In addition to the Pharma Park, the Uttar Pradesh government is also setting up a Medical Device Park on 350 acres of land at the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YIDA) in Gautam Buddha Nagar.

3. Uttar Pradesh's First Land Port Set To Be Operational In Bahraich District, To Enhance Cross-Border Trade With Nepal

- The first land port in Uttar Pradesh, close to the Rupaiddiha border in Bahraich, is gearing up for its inauguration.
- Situated around 184 km from Lucknow, the integrated check post has been developed to promote cross-border trade with Nepal and is set to welcome truckers and tourists frequenting the region.



Important CA

1. Badminton Asia Championships 2023, Highlights: Satwik-Chirag pair wins men's doubles gold medal

- **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty** scripted history by *becoming the first doubles pair to win a Gold medal at the Badminton Asia Championships*. The World No. 6 pair defeated the 8th-ranked pairing of One Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi of Malaysia in a stunning 3-game battle at Sheikh Rashid Bin Hamdan Indoor Hall, Al Nasr Club.
- Satwik and Chirag won India its only second gold medal at the Badminton Asia Championships **after Dinesh Khanna's men's singles Gold medal in 1965**.

2. BARC director Ajit Mohanty appointed chairman of Atomic Energy Commission

- The government has appointed director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Dr Ajit Kumar Mohanty, as the chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy.
- Mohanty will **replace outgoing secretary and chairman Dr Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas**, who has reached the age of retirement.
- The Department of Atomic Energy comes directly under the Prime Minister's Office, and since its inception in 1954, 'has been engaged in the development of nuclear power technology, applications of radiation technologies in the fields of agriculture, medicine, industry and basic research.'

3. Rail Vikas Nigam Limited receives the status of Navratna from Centre

- The Department of Public Enterprises granted the status of Navratna to the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL).
- In India, Navratna companies are those state-controlled firms that can **receive investments up to a value of Rs 1,000 crore**.
- RVNL is a project-executing agency working for and on behalf of the Ministry of Railways (MoR).
- **India now has 15 Navratnas.**

- Pradeep Gaur: Chairman and Managing Director of RVNL.
 - Other **14 Navratna** Companies in India 1. Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)2. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)3. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)4. Engineers India Limited (EIL)5. National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)6. Bharat Electronics Limited (BHEL)7. National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC)8. Oil India Limited (OIL)9. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)10. Container Corporation of India (CONCOR)11. National Aluminium Company (NALCO)12. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)13. NLC India Limited (NLCIL)14. Power Finance Corporation (PFC)
- #### 4. Fakhar Zaman, Naruemoi Chaiwai crowned ICC players of the month for April

- **Pakistan** batter Fakhar Zaman was named the ICC Men's Player of the month for April while **Thailand** skipper Naruemoi Chaiwai was adjudged best in the women's section after both produced match-winning performances for their countries in the ODIs.
- Fakhar becomes the *first Pakistan player to win the monthly accolade since Sidra Ameen* in November 2022.

5. Lionel Messi wins Laureus sportsman of the year, Argentina take best team award

- Argentina's World Cup winning captain Lionel Messi was named the Laureus Sportsman of the Year at the awards ceremony in Paris.
- Messi also received an award on behalf of the Argentina men's football team, who were named World Team of the Year after their triumph at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.
- **Sprint champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce bagged the top women's honour.**
- Messi has previously won the award once before, sharing it with Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton in 2020.
- Messi also became the first athlete to scoop both the World Sportsman of the Year Award and the World Team of the Year Award in the same year.
- Tennis player *Carlos Alcaraz*, who won the 2022 U.S. Open and rose to number one in the ATP rankings, was named the **Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year**.

- *Christian Eriksen*, who recovered from the cardiac arrest he suffered at the European Championship in 2021 to return to Premier League football with Brentford and then Manchester United before competing at the World Cup with Denmark, received the **Laureus World Comeback of the Year Award**.

6. Elon Musk hires ex-NBCUniversal ad chief Linda Yaccarino to be Twitter's CEO

- Twitter boss Elon Musk announced Linda Yaccarino as the new CEO of the micro-blogging social media platform.

- Yaccarino **has worked at NBCUniversal** for nearly 12 years ' with her team generating more than USD 100 billion in ad sales since 2011

7. Govt appoints AK Jain as new PNGRB Chairman

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the appointment of AK Jain as the new chairman of the Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB).

- He has been appointed as the Chairperson PNGRB "for a period of five years from the date of assumption of charge of the post or till attaining the age of 65 years.

- The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Bill, 2005 establishes the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) to regulate downstream activities in the petroleum and natural gas sector.

8. Centre Appoints Ravneet Kaur As Chairperson Of Competition Commission Of India

- The central government has appointed Ravneet Kaur, as the Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI).

- She is the **first woman in India to be appointed to this position** and will serve for a period of five years or until reaching the age of 65.

- The Commission comprises a Chairperson and six Members who are appointed by the Central Government.

- The goals of the Competition Act, 2002 are aimed at being accomplished through the establishment of the CCI, which was set up by the Central Government on 14th October 2003.

- There has been no full-time Chairperson for the competition regulator since Ashok Kumar Gupta demitted office in October 2022. CCI Member Sangeeta Verma has been acting as the Chairperson since October last year.

9. RBI asks banks to ensure complete move away from LIBOR by July

- The Reserve Bank of India told banks and other regulated entities to ensure a complete transition away from the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) **from July 1.**

- The complete transition from LIBOR is a significant event in the global financial markets which requires continued attention from all stakeholders to mitigate operational risks and ensure an orderly transitions.

- RBI advised institutions not to do new LIBOR-linked or the Mumbai Interbank Forward Outright Rate (MIFOR)-linked financial deals.

- **LIBOR is an average of the estimated interest rates submitted by leading UK banks. LIBOR is a benchmark rate against which global lenders mark their transactions.**

- On March 05, 2021, The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) of the United Kingdom (UK) announced that all LIBOR settings (interest rates) will

either cease to be provided or no longer be representative.

- The FCA said the LIBOR will cease to exist after December 31, 2021, in the case of all Pound Sterling, Euro, Swiss Franc, and Japanese Yen settings, and the 1-week and 2-month US Dollar settings. The remaining US Dollar settings would cease to exist after June 30, 2023.

- The RBI has offered **options like the SOFR (Secured Overnight Financing Rate), which is linked to US treasury market transactions, and the Modified Mumbai Interbank Forward Outright Rate (MMIFOR). SOFR is considered a more accurate and more secure pricing benchmark.**

- SOFR is a broad measure of the cost of borrowing cash overnight, collateralised by (US) treasury securities in the repo market. It is based on the actual market activity and is not dependent on a few firms to set the rates.

- Banks use benchmark rates like LIBOR to price international transactions while issuing financial instruments. Banks will have to work on updating their systems and agreements.

10. Indian Economy expected to grow by 5.8% in 2023 & 6.7% in 2024, says World Economic Situation & Prospects report released by UN

- The World Economic Situation and Prospects report released by the United Nations has reposed its faith in the Indian economy. The report said that India is expected to grow by **5.8 percent in 2023 and 6.7 percent in 2024.** With this, India is expected to remain the fastest-growing major economy in the world. The growth will be supported by resilient domestic demand.

- The UN report said that India remains a bright spot amid global economic uncertainty.

- It said that inflation in India is expected to decelerate to 5.5 percent in 2023 with the moderation of global commodity prices and slower currency depreciation.

- The report said that economic growth in India is expected to remain strong while the prospects for other South Asian nations are more challenging.

- Since India's inflation is about 5.5 percent, India will have significant room for both fiscal expansion and monetary accommodation to support the domestic demand.

- The report said the **world economy is projected to grow by 2.3 percent in 2023 and 2.5 percent in 2024.**

11. Union Cabinet Reshuffle: Arjun Meghwal New Law Minister, Kiren Rijju Given Charge Of Earth Sciences Ministry

- Arjun Ram Meghwal, who has been the minister of state for Culture, has been assigned the independent charge as Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice in addition to his existing portfolios, in place of

Shri Kiren Rijju, the President's Secretariat said in a statement.

- Rijju took over as the Law and Justice Minister on July 8, 2021.
- Prior to this, he served as the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Youth Affairs and Sports from May 2019 to July 2021.
- Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Minister of State has been assigned as Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in place of Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice.

12. RBI to withdraw 2,000 rupee notes from circulation; To remain as legal tender

- In pursuance of the 'Clean Note Policy' of the Reserve Bank of India has said it will withdraw **Rs.2,000 notes from circulation and people can exchange or deposit them in their bank accounts by September 30.**
- RBI's 19 regional offices and other banks will start taking Rs.2,000 notes for exchange with lower denomination one from May 23.
- They will remain legal tender.
- The **Rs.2000 denomination banknote was introduced in November 2016 under Section 24(1) of RBI Act, 1934**, primarily to meet the currency requirement of the economy in an expeditious manner after the withdrawal of legal tender status of all Rs.500 and Rs.1000 banknotes in circulation at that time. The objective of introducing Rs 2,000 banknotes was met once banknotes in other denominations became available in adequate quantities. Therefore, printing of Rs 2000 banknotes was stopped in 2018- 19.

13. Bulgarian writer Georgi Gospodinov wins International Booker Prize for 'Time Shelter'

- 'Time Shelter' penned by Bulgarian author Georgi Gospodinov and **translated by Angela Rodel, has become the 1st book, written in Bulgarian to bag the International Booker Prize.**
- A **50,000 pound prize** is awarded yearly to any outstanding work of fiction (novel or short story collection) that has been translated into English. It is split equally between the author and the translator.
- Time Shelter has also won Italy's Strega European Prize for literature in Italian translation.
- The International Booker Prize is awarded yearly to a translated work of fiction published in the U.K. or Ireland.
- Last year's winners were Indian writer **Geetanjali Shree** and **American translator Daisy Rockwell** for Tomb of Sand.

14. Unemployment Rate Dips To 6.8% In January-March 2023: Government Survey

- The **unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above in urban areas** declined to **6.8% during January-March 2023 from 8.2% a year ago**, the National Sample Survey showed. Joblessness or

unemployment rate is defined as the percentage of unemployed persons in the labour force.

- In January-March 2022, the unemployment rate was 8.2%.
- Joblessness was high in January-March 2022, mainly due to the staggering impact of Covid-related restrictions in the country. The unemployment rate in July-September 2022 and October-December 2022 was 7.2% only. It was 7.6% in April-June 2022.
- The unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above in April-June 2022 was 7.6% in urban areas, the 18th Periodic Labour Force Survey showed.

15. World No Tobacco Day 2023 | 31st May

- On **31 May 2023**, WHO and public health champions around the world come together to celebrate **World No Tobacco Day (WNTD)**. This year's **theme is "We need food, not tobacco"**. The 2023 global campaign aims to raise awareness about alternative crop production and marketing opportunities for tobacco farmers and encourage them to grow sustainable, nutritious crops.
- In **1987**, the World Health Organization state members established "World No Tobacco Day" to raise awareness about the devastating effects (deaths and disease) of tobacco usage on public health around the world. The World Health Assembly declared April 7, 1988, "a world no-smoking day" in 1987. In 1988, Resolution was enacted, designating May 31 as World No Tobacco Day.



Important General Knowledge (GK) Questions

1. Which of the following statements are true about Dayanand Saraswati?

A. He gave the slogan 'Back to the Vedas'.

B. Satya Prakash was his famous work.

Select the correct answer from the codes:

(a) Only A

(b) Only B

(c) Both A and B

(d) Neither A nor B

2. Who among the following is not entitled to Parliamentary privileges in India?

(a) Attorney General of India

(b) President of India

(c) Finance Minister of India

(d) Home Minister of India

3. Which of the following rulers introduced 'Rupee'?

(a) Akbar

(b) Iltutmish

(c) Sher Shah Suri

(d) Shah Jahan

4. In which year was the 'Lotteries Regulation Act' passed?

(a) 1998

(b) 1993

(c) 1999

(d) 1991

5. The ruins of the ancient city of Hampi, capital of Vijayanagara, are located in which present day Indian state?

(a) Rajasthan

(b) Karnataka

(c) Bihar

(d) Andhra Pradesh

6. Who among the following is the founder of the field of psychoanalysis?

(a) Jean Piaget

(b) Kai T Erikson

(c) Sigmund Freud

(d) Carl Jung

7. Match the column.

I. Copper sulphate a-SO₂

II. Washing soda b-CuSO₄

III. Baking Soda c-Na₂CO₃

IV. Sulphur dioxide d-NaHCO₃

(a) I - b, II - c, III - d, IV - a,

(b) I - b, II - d, III - c, IV - a,

(c) I - c, II - a, III - b, IV - d,

(d) I - c, II - d, III - a, IV - b,

8. Balances in savings / current accounts which are not operated or claimed within _____ from date of maturity are classified as 'Unclaimed Deposits'.

(a) 3 years

(b) 5 years

(c) 7 years

(d) 10 years

9. The terms 'Aftershocks' and 'Foreshocks' are related to which of the following?

(a) El Nino and La Nina

(b) Coral Bleaching

(c) Seismic Activity

(d) Solar Storm

10. Which of the following is a parent company of Ariel, a laundry detergent brand?

(a) Johnson & Johnson

(b) Unilever

(c) Procter & Gamble

(d) Tata

11. Plants such as moss and ferns reproduce by

(a) Spore formation

(b) Budding

(c) Fragmentation

(d) Vegetative propagation

12. Which of the following sites belonging to the Harappan civilization is situated in Maharashtra?

(a) Diamabad

(b) Alamgirpur

(c) Sarkotada

(d) Banawali

13. Which vegetable contains a chemical called anthocyanin that changes colour in the presence of acid?

(a) Tomato

(b) Cucumber

(c) Beet root

(d) Spinach

Answer Keys

1. a 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. b 6. c 7. a 8. d 9. c 10. c 11. a 12. a 13. c

14. The Committee on Public Accounts consists of how many members?

(a) 10

(b) 15

(c) 18

(d) 22

15. Who was the founder of Kalinga Airlines?

(a) Naveen Patnaik

(b) H.P. Rao

- (c) Biju Patnaik
(d) Nizam of Hyderabad

16. Vidushi Shashikala Dani is an exponent of the

- (a) Sarod
(b) Sarangi
(c) Jaltarang
(d) Mandolin

17. Match the following trophies with their respective sports

- A. Aga Khan Cup a. Cricket
B. Durand Trophy b. Badminton
C. Sharjah Cup c. Football
D. Yonex Cup d. Hockey
(a) A-d, B-a, C-c, D-b
(b) A-d, B-c, C-a, D-b
(c) A-a, B-c, C-d, D-b
(d) A-b, B-c, C-a, D-d

18. Which one of the following pairs is correct?

- (a) Endangered species - Indian Rhino
(b) Endemic species- Andaman teal
(c) Extinct species- Asiatic Cheetah
(d) All of the above

19. What was the Emblem of The Chola Kingdom?

- (a) Tiger
(b) Bow
(c) Fish
(d) Elephant

20. Which of the following statements is/are correct about the Sovereign Green Bonds Framework of India? I. The Sovereign Green Bond Framework applies to all sovereign Green Bonds issued by the Government of India. II. Investors in bonds issued under this Framework do not bear any project related risks. III. The framework complies with three core components as outlined by ICMA green bond principles are: Use of proceeds; Project evaluation and selection; and Feedback of proceeds. Select the correct answer.

- (a) I and II only
(b) III only
(c) II and III only
(d) II only

21. Which of the following Range comprises of Banihal Pass, Sinthal Pass, Rohtang La, Munawar Pass and Haji Pir Pass?

- (a) Zaskar Range
(b) Dhauladhar Range
(c) Pir Panjal Range
(d) East Karakoram Range

22. Who was the second Deputy Prime Minister of India?

- (a) Lal Bahadur Shastri
(b) Morarji Desai

- (c) Indira Gandhi
(d) K Kamaraj

23. Which of the following Tree is on the Logo of RBI?

- (a) Banyan
(b) Palm
(c) Peepal
(d) Ashoka

24. In Discus Throw, the weight of the discus is fixed at _____ for women.

- (a) 2.5 kg
(b) 2 kg
(c) 1.5 kg
(d) 1 kg

25. Which of the following harvest festival in Northeast India is also known as the Maize Festival?

- (a) Mim Kut
(b) Murung
(c) Lyuva Khutla
(d) Mopin

26. Mammals in colder climatic regions generally have shorter ears and limbs. This adoption is for which among the following purposes?

- (a) To save energy.
(b) To minimise water heat loss.
(c) To conserve water.
(d) To protect itself from predators.

Answer Keys

14. **d** 15. **c** 16. **c** 17. **b** 18. **d** 19. **a** 20. **a** 21. **c** 22. **b** 23. **b** 24. **d** 25. **a** 26. **b**

27. O'Brien and Baryshnikov are techniques in which of the following sport?

- (a) Tennis
(b) Long jump
(c) Shot put
(d) Pole vault

28. Which among the following committees is constituted only in Lok Sabha?

- (a) Rules Committee
(b) Business Advisory Committee
(c) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table
(d) Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions

29. Which of the following Vitamin is Soluble in Water?

- (a) Vitamin A
(b) Vitamin D
(c) Vitamin E
(d) Vitamin C

30. Which of the following article of the Indian Constitution deals with the Term of office of Governor?

- (a) Article 156

(b) Article 234
(c) Article 75

(d) Article 252

Answer Keys

1. a	2. b	3. c	4. a	5. b	6. c	7. a	8. d	9. c	10. c
11. a	12. a	13. c	14. d	15. c	16. c	17. b	18. d	19. a	20. a
21. c	22. b	23. b	24. d	25. a	26. b	27. c	28. d	29. d	30. a

Solutions

1. a

- He considered Vedas to be infallible and gave the slogan 'Back to the Vedas'.
- His famous work was 'Satyarth Prakash' and not Satya Prakash.
- Satya prakash was a Gujarati language weekly founded by social reformer and journalist Karsandas Mulji with an intention of social reform.

2. b

- Parliamentary privileges are rights, exemptions and immunities that are available to the two Houses of Parliament, their committees and their members.
- The Attorney General and union ministers are entitled to these privileges.
- It does not extend to the President who is also an integral part of the Parliament.

3. c

- Sher Shah Suri introduced the Rupee which was a silver currency.
- He also built G.T. Road that runs from Calcutta to Peshawar.
- He also fixed standard weights and measures.

4. a

The Lotteries Regulation Act, 1998 is an important piece of legislation that lays down thorough guidelines for the central government to conduct lotteries in India. It also allows the government of the states to conduct and regulate lotteries subject to certain conditions. This act was enacted on the 7th of July in the year 1998 and was brought into force on the 2nd of October 1998 subsequently. It replaces the Lotteries (Regulation) Ordinance of 1998.

5. b

Located in • **Karnataka** near the modern-era city of Hosapete, Hampi's ruins are spread over 4,100 Ha (16 sq mi). It has been described by UNESCO as an "austere, grandiose site". • It consists of more than 1,600 surviving remains of the last great Hindu kingdom in South India that includes "forts, riverside features, royal and sacred complexes,

temples, shrines, pillared halls, mandapas, memorial structures, water structures and others". •

6. c

- **Sigmund Freud** is the founder of the field of psychoanalysis. Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) was an Austrian neurologist. Freud's theories and techniques led largely to evaluating our interpretations of human behavior. • His innovative treatments of human actions and dreams had massive implication for a wide variety of fields like psychology. • He also helped push the study of the mind and greatly influenced the study and understanding of human psychological development. •

7. a

- Copper Sulphate - **CuSo₄**
- Washing Soda-**Na₂Co₃**
- Sulphur dioxide- **SO₂**
- Baking Soda -**NaHCO₃**

8. d

The Reserve Bank of India announced a '100 Days 100 Pays' campaign for banks to trace and settle the top 100 unclaimed deposits of every bank in every district of the country within 100 days. This measure will complement the ongoing efforts and initiatives by the Reserve Bank to reduce the quantum of unclaimed deposits in the banking system. The banks will commence the campaign from June 01, 2023. Balances in savings / current accounts which are not operated for 10 years, or term deposits not claimed within 10 years from date of maturity are classified as 'Unclaimed Deposits'. These amounts are transferred by banks to 'Depositor Education and Awareness' (DEA) Fund maintained by the Reserve Bank of India.

9. c

- 'Aftershocks' and 'Foreshocks' came into the limelight after the recent 7.5 magnitude earthquake on the border of Turkey and Syria.
- **'Aftershocks' and 'Foreshocks' are correlated terms. Tectonic plates always move slowly, but**

due to friction, they get stuck at their edges, causing earthquakes (seismic activity).

- Aftershocks are usually smaller earthquakes that occur in the same general area after a larger earthquake. Its number will be highest immediately after the main shock but will gradually decrease with time.
- Foreshocks are earthquakes that occur before larger earthquakes in the same location, but cannot be identified until a larger earthquake occurs in the same area.

10. **c**

Ariel is a brand of laundry detergent developed by P&G European Technology Centre in Belgium. Parent company: Procter & Gamble

11. **a**

Spores are asexual reproductive bodies. Each spore is covered by a hard protective coat to withstand unfavourable conditions such as high temperature and low humidity. So they can survive for a long time. Under favourable conditions, a spore germinates and develops into a new individual. Plants such as moss and ferns reproduce by means of spores.

12. **a**

The Indus Valley or the Harappan civilization flourished during the Bronze Age i.e. 2500-2000 B.C. and is ranked among the four widely known civilizations of the Old World. Extensive excavation work undertaken during the post-Independence period identified hundreds of sites belonging to the Harappan civilization. The prominent among these are Dholavira (Gujarat), Kalibangan (Rajasthan), Lothal (Gujarat), Sarkotada (Gujarat), **Diamabad (Maharashtra)**, Alamgirpur (Uttar Pradesh), Bhagwanpura and Banawali (Haryana), Kuntasi, Padri (Gujarat) and Mauda (Jammu).

13. **c**

Beets, blackberries, grape juice, plums, turnip skin, and more all act as an edible natural pH indicator. They all have anthocyanin in them which makes the solution change color, but they also differ in that little side groups attached to the main molecule cause the color changes to vary between foods.

14. **d**

- The Committee on Public Accounts is the oldest Parliamentary Committee and was first constituted in 1921.
- The Committee consists of **22 Members**, 15 Members are elected by Lok Sabha and 7 Members of the Rajya Sabha are associated with it.
- The Speaker is empowered to appoint the Chairman of the Committee from amongst its Members.
- The Committee on Public Accounts scrutinizes the Appropriation Accounts of the Government of India

and the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

15. **c**

Kalinga Airlines was a private airline based in Kolkata. It was founded in 1947 by aviator and politician Biju Patnaik, who was also the airline's chief pilot. The airline was nationalised and merged into Indian Airlines in 1953. It restarted operations as a non-scheduled charter operator in 1957 and flew passengers and cargo until 1972.

In news:

The Odisha government is set to bring to the state the iconic Dakota aircraft of former chief minister Biju Patnaik from Kolkata, with the Airport Authority of India (AAI) having agreed to hand over 1.1 acre land on the premises of the airport here for the purpose.

16. **c**

Vidushi Shashikala Dani is an Indian Hindustani classical Jaltarang artist. She is one among the few musicians and presently the only All India Radio-graded female exponent of the Jaltarang. She is a multi-instrument artist with concert and teaching experience in Jaltarang, Harmonium, Sitar, Violin, Dilruba and Tabla. She is also an All India Radio-graded vocalist in the Gamaka genre of Hindustani Light Music.

17. **b**

Aga Khan Cup	Hockey
Durand Trophy	Football
Sharjah Cup	Cricket
Yonex Cup	Badminton

18. **d**

- **Endangered Species:** These are species which are in danger of extinction. The survival of such species is difficult if the negative factors that have led to a decline in their population continue to operate. The examples of such species are black buck, crocodile, Indian wild ass, Indian rhino, lion tailed macaque, sangai (brow antler deer in Manipur), etc.
- **Endemic Species:** These are species which are only found in some particular areas usually isolated by natural or geographical barriers. Examples of such species are the Andaman teal, Nicobar pigeon, Andaman wild pig, mithun in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Extinct Species:** These are species which are not found after searches of known or likely areas where they may occur. A species may be extinct from a local area, region, country, continent or the entire earth. Examples of such species are the Asiatic cheetah, pink head duck.

19. **a**

- The Cheras, The Cholas, and The Pandyas were the early kingdoms of South.
- The **Cholas had their inland capital at Uraiaur and their Emblem was tiger.**
- The Cheras had Bow as their emblem and Vanji was their capital.
- The Pandyas had Fish as their emblem and Madurai was their capital.

20. a

Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman approves the final Sovereign Green Bonds framework of India.

The approval is fulfillment of the announcement in the Union Budget FY 2022-23 by the Union Finance Minister that Sovereign Green Bonds will be issued for mobilising resources for green projects.

India's first Sovereign Green Bonds framework was formulated and as per the provisions of the framework, Green Finance Working Committee (GFWC) was constituted to validate key decisions on issuance of Sovereign Green Bonds.

The Sovereign Green Bond Framework applies to all sovereign Green Bonds issued by the Government of India.

Investors in bonds issued under this Framework do not bear any project related risks.

The framework complies with four core components as outlined by ICMA green bond principles are: i. Use of proceeds; ii. Project evaluation and selection; iii. Management of proceeds; and iv. Reporting.

21. c

Pir Panjal Range is the largest range of the lower Himalayas and runs from the East-Southeast to west-northwest. The Pir Panjal pass lies to the west of Srinagar and comprises Banihal Pass, Sinthal Pass, Rohtang La, Munawar Pass and Haji Pir Pass.

Zaskar Range starts from south-eastern boundaries of Kashmir and extends to the eastern limit of Baltistan. Singge La Pass, Runrang La Pass, Fotu (Fatu) La Pass, Marbal Pass and Zoji La Pass are some of the passes of this range.

Dhauladhar Range rises from the plains of India to the north of Mandi and Kangra. Hanuman ji Ka Tiba or the 'White Mountain' is the highest peak.

East Karakoram Range separates India from Central Asia and is also one of the larger ranges of Asia. It is home to the second highest peak of the world, K2.

22. b

Moraji Desai became second chief minister of Bombay, serving between 1952 and 1957.

The post of Deputy Prime Minister was left vacant between 15 December 1950 to 21 March 1967.

He served as the deputy prime minister of India and finance minister for two years (1967-69).

23. b

The Reserve Bank of India is India's central banking Institution, which controls the monetary policy of the Indian rupee. It was founded on 1st April 1935. Before selecting any design the RBI had to follow few guidelines. After looking various designs they came to the East India Company's Double Mohur which depicts a **lion with a palm tree behind it**. This design was selected as the base with some variations into it. **The lion was replaced by our national animal tiger**, which is also native to India.

Symbolically the tiger stands for grace, strength, and power.

24. d

The discus throw, where a competitor hurls a heavy disc, was one of the events at the Ancient Olympics. It was introduced in the ancient Greek pentathlon event -- running, long jump, discus throw, javelin throw, and wrestling -- and can be dated back to 708 BC.

The weight of the discus is fixed at 2kg for the men and 1kg for women. The metal disc is basically thrown by an athlete by standing inside a circle with a diameter of 2.5m.

25. a

Mim Kut is celebrated after the harvest of the maize crop is over in Northeast India. For this very reason, Mim Kut is also called the Maize Festival. It is celebrated generally during the month of August or September. Singing, dancing, drinking of rice-beer and merry-making are the common features of this festival.

26. b

Mammals in colder climates generally have shorter ears and limbs. It is a mechanism to conserve heat by checking heat loss from the body.

Heat gain can be maximised, and heat loss can be minimised by decreasing the surface area to volume ratio of body.

So, in the polar regions, small animals and reptiles are rarely found because of their more surface area and less volume.

27. c

O' Brien Technique / Glide **shot put** technique was invented by Parry O'Brien from the United States in 1952. This technique not only gave him an extra quarter-turn but also increased his propulsion and improved his performance by about 1 meter.

Baryshnikov Technique / Spin shot put technique was first used by Aleksandr Baryshnikov in 1972 and was invented by his coach Viktor Alexeyev. It involves a spin just like discus throw with the help of rotational momentum for power.

28. d

In Lok Sabha, the **Committees on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions** consists of 15 members including the Deputy Speaker as its chairman. This

committee classifies bills and allocates time for the discussion on bills and resolutions introduced by private members. This function is performed by the Business Advisory Committee in the Rajya Sabha.

29. d

There are nine water-soluble vitamins: **the B vitamins - folate, thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, pantothenic acid, biotin, vitamin B6, and vitamin B12 - and vitamin C.**

30. a

Article 156 of the Indian Constitution deals with the Term of office of Governor. It further states the following:

- The Governor shall hold office during the pleasure of the President.
- The Governor may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office.
- Subject to the foregoing provisions of this article, a Governor shall hold for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office.
- Provided that a Governor shall, notwithstanding the expiration of his term, continue to hold office until his successor enters upon his office.

Quick Learners

APPOINTMENTS

APPOINTMENT	POST
Arun Nanda	Chairman of Mahindra Holidays and Resorts
Vanessa Hudson	Chief Financial Officer of Australian airline Qantas Group
Debadatta Chand	Chief Executive Officer of Bank of Baroda
Ajay Banga	President of World Bank
Harjinder Kang	Trade Commissioner to South Asia and Deputy High Commissioner for Western India
Polavarapu Mallikharjuna Prasad	Chairman and Managing Director of Coal India (CIL)
Ajay Vij	Country Managing Director of Accenture India
P Krishna Bhat	Administrator of the Basketball Federation of India (BFI)
Parminder Chopra	Chairman and Managing Director of Power Finance Corporation
Saugata Gupta	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Marico
S N Subrahmanyam	Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director of Larsen & Toubro
Geeta Rao Gupta	Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues in the State Department
Praveen Sood	Director of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
Pramod Bhasin	Chairman of the Data Security Council of India (DSCI)
Prashant Kumar Mishra	Judges of Supreme Court
Kalpathy Venkataraman Viswanathan	Judges of Supreme Court
Manoj Soni	Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
Jayakumar S. Pillai	Deputy Managing Director of IBDI Bank
Jaswant Singh Birdi	Lord Mayor of Coventry, UK
Dr K. Govindaraj	President of International Basketball Federation (FIBA)
Sourav Ganguly	Ambassador of Tripura tourism
R Dinesh	President of CII
Srikrishnan Harihara Sarma	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Karnataka Bank
Vijay Shekhar Sharma	Part Time Chairman of Paytm Payments Bank
Praveen Kumar Srivastava	Central Vigilance Commissioner
Girish Chandra Murmu	External Auditor of the World Health Organisation (WHO)
Recep Tayyip Erdogan	President of Turkey
Justice Ramesh Devkinandan Dhanuka	Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court
Justice Augustine George Masih	Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court
Dr Ajit Kumar Mohanty	Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy
AK Jain	Chairman of the Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)
Siddaramaiah	Chief Minister of Karnataka
DK Shivakumar	Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka
Ravneet Kaur	Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI)
Arjun Ram Meghwal	Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice
Kiren Rijju	Minister of Earth Sciences

IMPORTANT DAYS

DATE	DAY	THEME
May 1 st	Maharashtra Day	
May 1 st	International Labour Day	
May 1 st	Gujarat Day	
May 4 th	International Firefighters Day	
May 5 th	World Portuguese Language Day	
May 7 th	World Athletics Day	Athletics for All – A New Beginning
May 8 th	World Thalassaemia Day	

May 8 th	World Red Cross	Everything we do comes #fromtheheart
May 10 th	World Lupus Day	
May 11 th	National Technology Day	School to Startups-Igniting Young Minds to Innovate
May 12 th	International Nurses Day	Our Nurses. Our Future
May 15 th	International Day of Families	Demographic Trends and Families
May 15 th - 21 st	UN Global Road Safety Week	
May 16 th	International Day of Living Together in Peace	
May 16 th	International Day of Light	Light for the Future
May 16 th	National Dengue Day	Fight Dengue, Save Lives
May 17 th	World Telecommunication Day	Empowering the least developed countries through information and communication technologies
May 17 th	World Hypertension Day	Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer
May 18 th	International Museum Day	Museums, Sustainability and Wellbeing
May 19 th	National Endangered Species Day	
May 20 th	World Metrology Day	Measurements supporting the global food system
May 20 th	World Bee Day	Bee engaged in pollinator-friendly agricultural production
May 21 st	National Anti-Terrorism Day	
May 22 nd	International Day for Biological Diversity	From Agreement to Action: Build Back Biodiversity
May 23 rd	International Day to End Obstetric Fistula	
May 23 rd	World Turtles Day	I love turtles
May 25 th	World Thyroid Day	
May 25 th	International Missing Children's Day	
May 29 th	International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers	
May 31 st	World No Tobacco Day	We need food, not tobacco

SPORTS

NAME OF THE SPORTS PERSON	RELATED FIELD
Ding Liren	Chess
Ian Nepomniachtchi	Chess
Sergio Perez	Car racing
Max Verstappen	Car racing
Mairaj Ahmad Khan	Shooting
Ganemat Sekhon	Shooting
Neeraj Chopra	Javelin throw
Jakub Vadlejch	Javelin throw
Luca Brecel	Snooker
Joe Davis	Snooker
Jeremy Lalrinnunga	Weightlifting
Bindyarani Devi	Weightlifting
Chen Guan Ling	Weightlifting
Praveen Chithravel	Triple Jump
Rhythm Sangwan	Shooting
Deepak Bhoria	Boxing
Mohammed Hussamuddin	Boxing
Nishant Dev	Boxing
Divya TS	Shooting
Sarabjot Singh	Shooting
Hriday Hazarika	Shooting
Nancy Mandhotra	Shooting
Pradip Kumar Banerjee	Football

Suhana Saini	Tennis
Ankur Bhattacharjee	Tennis
Payas Jain	Tennis
V.Prraneeth	Chess
Shaili Singh	Long Jump
Sameer Verma	Badminton
Murali Sreeshankar	Long Jump
MS Dhoni	Cricket
Hardik Pandya	Cricket
Shubman Gill	Cricket
Yashasvi Jaiswal	Cricket
Glenn Maxwell	Cricket
Shubman Gill	Cricket
Rashid Khan	Cricket
Mohammed Shami	Cricket
HS Prannoy	Badminton
Jyothi Yarraji	Hurdles
Cristiano Ronaldo	Football
Devon Thomas	Cricket
Satwiksairaj Rankireddy	Badminton
Chirag Shetty	Badminton
Fakhar Zaman	Cricket
Naruemol Chaiwai	Cricket
Lionel Messi	Football

SCHEMES

NAME OF THE SCHEME	THEME
Smart Cities Mission	Redevelopment of Cities
Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana	Accident Insurance Scheme
Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana	Life Insurance Scheme
Atal Pension Yojana	Pension Scheme
Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) scheme	Promote investment among women
"75/25" initiative	Combat rising burden of Non-communicable diseases
Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN)	Regional Connectivity Scheme
Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram	Address development deficits in the identified minority concentration areas
Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi scheme	Promotion of Generic Medicine
Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Yojana (Maharashtra)	One crore farmers in Maharashtra to be paid 6,000 rupees annually

DEFENCE

DEFENCE EXERCISE NAME	COUNTRIES INVOLVED
Ekta Evam Shradhanjali Abhiyan	Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
1st ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023)	Indian and ASEAN navies
Buland Bharat	Indian Army (held in Arunachal Pradesh)
35th India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT)	India and Thailand
4th Samudra Shakti	India and Indonesia
Jal Rahat Flood Relief Exercise	Indian Army in Assam

AWARDS

AWARDEE	AWARD NAME	RELATED FIELD
Dr M.N. Nandakumara (for services to Indian classical arts in Britain)	Honorary MBE	Order of the British Empire

Barbara Kingsolver for Demon Copperhead, Hernan Diaz for Trust	2023 Pulitzer Prize - Fiction	Award administered by Columbia University for achievements in newspaper, magazine, online journalism, literature, and musical composition within the United States.
Associated Press	2023 Pulitzer Prize - Journalism(public service and breaking news photography)	
Omar by Rhiannon Giddens and Michael Abels	2023 Pulitzer Prize - Music	
Jayant Narlikar	Astronomical Society of India's Govind Swarup Lifetime Achievement Award	Astronomy
Cochin Port	Sagar Shreshtha Samman Award - for best turnaround time in non-container port category.	Ports
Deendayal Port	Sagar Shreshtha Samman Award - Absolute Performance for the year 2022-23 for handling highest cargo of 137.56 MMT	
Arinze Ifeakandu	2023 Swansea University Dylan Thomas Prize	Literature
Narendra Modi	Companion of the Order of Fiji and Companion of the Order of Logohu by Papua New Guinea.	Highest honour of respective nations
Damodar Mauzo	57th Jnanpith Award	Literature
Lionel Messi	Laureus Sportsman of the Year	Sports
Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	Laureus Sportswoman of the Year	
Fakhar Zaman(Pakistan)	ICC Men's Player of the Month for April	
Naruemol Chaiwai (Thailand)	ICC Women's Player of the Month for April	
Bulgarian Author Georgi Gospodinov and translator Angela Rodel for Time Shelter	International Booker Prize	Literature
Hrithik Roshan	2023 IIFA - Best Actor (male)	Entertainment
Alia Bhatt	2023 IIFA - Best Actor (female)	
Natarajan Chandrasekaran	Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour)	France's highest civilian award

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCE

SUMMIT/ CONFERENCE NAME	THEME	LOCATION
SCO Foreign Ministers Council meeting		Panaji, Goa
Global Chess League in June-July 2023		Dubai
Machines Can See 2023 by UAE		Dubai
G20 Conference on Crime and Security in the age of NFTs (Non Fungible Tokens), AI and Metaverse in July		Gurugram
Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023 (APIC 2023)	Ushering in a Sustainable Future	New Delhi
49th G7 summit		Hiroshima, Japan

76th World Health Assembly	WHO at 75: Saving lives, driving health for all	Geneva, Switzerland
G20: 2nd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting		Bengaluru
International Conference on Chemicals and Petrochemicals		New Delhi
G20: 2nd Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group meeting		Mumbai
G20:Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting		Tehri, Uttarakhand
Conclave on Emerging Standards on Auditing, Public Policy, and Crypto		Dubai
1st India-EU trade and technology council (TTC) meeting		Brussels, Belgium

RANKS AND REPORTS

NAME OF THE REPORT/INDEX	RELEASED BY	RANKING OF INDIA/STATE/COMPANY ETC	COUNTRY WHICH TOPPED THE LIST
Future of Jobs Report 2023	World Economic Forum		
ODF Plus Rankings	Swachh Bharat Mission	Wayanad in Kerala - tops	
2023 World Press Freedom Index	Reporters Without Borders (RSF)	161	Norway
National Manufacturing Innovation Survey 2021-22	Department of Science and Technology	Karnataka	
Data Governance Quality Index for Q3 of FY23	Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), NITI Aayog	Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways	
Top buyer from GeM portal in FY23	Union Commerce Ministry	Uttar Pradesh	
61st Top 500 Global Supercomputing List	Released at International Supercomputing Conference 2023	AIRAWAT at C-DAC, Pune - 75th	Frontier System, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, USA

OBITUARY

OBITUARY	RELATED FIELD
Tori Bowie	Sprinter and Long Jumper- Olympian
Tina Turner	Singer

IMPORTANT STATIC & CURRENT INFO

INDIAN STATES, CAPITALS, CHIEF MINISTERS & GOVERNORS

STATE	CAPITAL	CHIEF MINISTER	GOVERNOR
Andhra Pradesh	Amaravati	Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy	Justice (Retd.) S. Abdul Nazeer
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Pema Khandu	Lt. General Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik
Assam	Dispur	Himanta Biswa Sarma	Gulab Chand Kataria
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Bhupesh Baghel	Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
Goa	Panaji	Pramod Sawant	P.S. Sreedharan Pillai
Gujarat	Gandhi Nagar	Bhupendra Patel	Acharya Dev Vrat
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar	Bandaru Dattatraya
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu	Shiv Pratap Shukla
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Hemant Soren	CP Radhakrishnan
Karnataka	Bengaluru	Siddaramaiah	Thaawarchand Gehlot
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	Arif Mohammed Khan
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chauhan	Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

Maharashtra	Mumbai	Eknath Shinde	Ramesh Bais
Manipur	Imphal	N Biren Singh	Sushri Anusuiya Uikye
Meghalaya	Shillong	Conrad Kongkal Sangma	Phagu Chauhan
Mizoram	Aizawl	Pu Zoramthanga	Dr Kambhampati Haribabu
Nagaland	Kohima	Neiphiu Rio	La. Ganesan
Odisha	Bhubaneshwar	Naveen Patnaik	Ganeshi Lal
Punjab	Chandigarh	Bhagwant Mann	Banwarilal Purohit
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Ashok Gehlot	Kalraj Mishra
Sikkim	Gangtok	PS Golay	Lakshman Prasad Acharya
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	M. K. Stalin	R. N. Ravi
Telangana	Hyderabad	K. Chandrasekhar Rao	Tamilisai Soundararajan
Tripura	Agartala	Dr. Manik Saha	Satyadeo Narain Arya
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Yogi Aditya Nath	Anandiben Patel
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Pushkar Singh Dhami	Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamata Banerjee	C V Ananda Bose

UNION TERRITORIES, LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS & ADMINISTRATORS

UNION TERRITORY	LT. GOVERNOR & ADMINISTRATOR
Andaman and Nicobar Island (UT)	Admiral D K Joshi (Lieutenant Governor)
Chandigarh (UT)	Banwarilal Purohit (Administrator)
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (UT)	Praful Patel (Administrator)
Delhi (NCT)	Vinai Kumar Saxena (Lieutenant Governor)
Jammu and Kashmir (UT)	Manoj Sinha (Lieutenant Governor)
Lakshadweep (UT)	Praful Patel (Administrator)
Puducherry (UT)	Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan (Addl. Charge) (Lieutenant Governor)
Ladakh (UT)	Brig. (Dr.) BD Mishra (Retd.) (Lieutenant Governor)

UNION MINISTERS & PORTFOLIO

UNION MINISTER	PORTFOLIO
Narendra Modi	Ministry of personnel, public grievances and pensions Department of Atomic Energy Department of Space
Rajnath Singh	Ministry of Defence
Amit Shah	Ministry of Home Affairs Ministry of Cooperation
Nitin Gadkari	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Nirmala Sitharaman	Ministry of Finance Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Piyush Goyal	Ministry of Commerce and Industry Ministry of Textiles Ministry of Consumer affairs, food and public distribution
Narendra Singh Tomar	Ministry of agriculture and Farmers welfare
Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	Ministry of External Affairs
Arjun Munda	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Smriti Zubin Irani	Ministry of Women and child Development Ministry of Minority Affairs
Dharmendra Pradhan	Ministry of Education Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
Pralhad Joshi	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Ministry of coal Ministry of Mines
Narayan Tatu Rane	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Sarbananda Sonowal	Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)

Dr. Virendra Kumar	Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Giriraj Singh	Ministry of Rural Development Ministry of Panchayati Raj
Jyotiraditya M. Scindia	Ministry of Civil Aviation Ministry of Steel
Ashwini Vaishnaw	Ministry of Railways Ministry of Communications Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
Pashu Pati Kumar Paras	Ministry of Food Processing Industries
Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	Ministry of Jal Shakti
Kiren Rijju	Ministry of Earth Sciences
Raj Kumar Singh	Ministry of Power Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
Hardeep Singh Puri	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Mansukh L. Mandaviya	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
Bhupender Yadav	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ministry of Labour and Employment
Mahendra Nath Pandey	Ministry of Heavy Industries
Parshottam Rupala	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
G. Kishan Reddy	Ministry of Culture Ministry of Tourism Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
Anurag Singh Thakur	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
Arjun Meghwal	Ministry of Law and Justice

Important Computer Knowledge (CK) Questions

- Which of the following is a computer hardware?
 - Keyboard
 - Monitor
 - Printer
 - RAM
 - CPU(a) Only a, b, and c
(b) Only b, and c
(c) Only d, and e
(d) All of the above
 - Which of the following is the term used for copyrighted software that is distributed on a "try before we buy" basis by paying a nominal shareware fee?
 - Firmware
 - Shareware
 - Freeware
 - Tryware
 - Which of the following is a system software?
 - Windows 10
 - Assemblers
 - Translators
 - Compilers(a) Only a
(b) Only b, c, and d
(c) Only b and c
(d) All of the above
 - Which of the following language is also known as Symbolic Programming Language?
 - Machine Language
 - Assembly Language
 - PROLOG
 - PASCAL
 - Which of the following field allows you to specify recipients who are not direct addressees in an email?
 - To
 - Carbon Copy
 - Blind Carbon Copy
 - Both B and C
 - DSL, an internet connection that is always on, stand for?
 - Digital Subscriber Line
 - Data Subscriber Line
 - Dedicated Subscriber Line
 - Delimited Subscriber Line
 - What is the central component of an operating system that manages operations of computer and hardware?
 - Kernel
 - Disk Memory
 - Nano chip
 - None of the above
 - What is the default port of Telnet?
 - 23
 - 24
 - 25
 - 26
 - Which of the following is a shortcut to advance to the next slide in Powerpoint?
 - Comma
 - Period
 - Backspace
 - Spacebar
 - A 1-bit image
 - supports 256 colors
 - is monochrome
 - supports true color
 - supports grayscales
 - Which of the following refers to a technology that creates a safe and encrypted connection over a less secure network, such as the internet?
 - Proxy server
 - Sandboxing
 - DNS
 - VPN
 - Which among the following enables a selected hardware component to fetch the memory of the computer system without any interference ?
 - Direct Memory Access
 - Direct Address Access
 - Direct Utility Access
 - Direct Access Utility
 - In MS Excel, The minimum space that should be provided between two columns is _____.
 - 2 inches
 - 0 inch
 - 0.5 inches
 - 1.5 inches
1. **d** 2. **b** 3. **d** 4. **b** 5. **d** 6. **a** 7. **a** 8. **a** 9. **d** 10. **b** 11. **d** 12. **a** 13. **b**
- Which protocol provides an e-mail facility among different hosts?
 - FTP
 - TELNET
 - SMTP
 - SNMP

15. Which of the following is used to open a new blank document in Microsoft Word?

- (a) Ctrl+ O
- (b) Ctrl+ D
- (c) Ctrl+ P
- (d) Ctrl+ N

16. Which of the following was the first practical general-purpose stored-program electronic computer in the world?

- (a) EDVAC
- (b) ENIAC
- (c) UNIVAC
- (d) EDSAC

17. What is 'Warm Booting'?

- (a) Starting a computer in summer season
- (b) Starting a computer after shutting it down
- (c) Restarting a computer that is already on
- (d) Restarting a computer

18. Which of the following topologies has all the computers connected to a single hub through a cable which is the central node and all the other nodes are connected to the central node?

- (a) Tree Topology
- (b) Ring Topology
- (c) Mesh Topology
- (d) Star Topology

19. Character set conversions like ASCII to EBCDIC are the functions of which OSI layer?

- (a) Application layer
- (b) Presentation layer
- (c) Transport layer
- (d) Session layer

20. What is the color of the underline that appears in a MS Word doc if grammar mistake is present?

- (a) Blue
- (b) Red
- (c) Green
- (d) Black

Answer Keys

1. d	2. b	3. d	4. b	5. d	6. a	7. a	8. a	9. d	10. b
11. d	12. a	13. b	14. c	15. d	16. d	17. c	18. d	19. b	20. c

Solutions

1. **d**

Computer hardware is a term used to describe the mechanical and electronic elements of a computer. A computer cannot function appropriately without hardware. In other words, Hardware refers to the physical components of the computer system which can be seen and touched.

Computer system has four physical components viz.

(i) CPU, (ii) Primary Memory, (iii) Input Device and (iv) Output Devices.

2. **b**

Shareware software is copyrighted software that is distributed on a "try before we buy" basis by paying a nominal shareware fee. Users who want to continue using the program after the trial period are encouraged to send a payment for the program to the program developer. Shareware is generally less expensive because often a single programmer develops it.

3. **d**

System software is a set of one or more programs, which are designed to control the operation and networking of computers. It acts as an intermediary between computer hardware and application program.

It can further be divided into three types: Operating System, Language Processors and Utilities.

Windows 10 is an operating System.

Assemblers, Translators and Compilers are examples of Language Processors.

Hence, Option (4) all of the above is the correct option.

4. **b**

Assembly Language is also known as Symbolic Programming Language.

Low-Level languages - It is a programming language that deals with a computer's hardware and its configuration. It is very close to the computer's native language. It is further divided into Machine and Assembly languages.

Assembly Language - A combination of letters and numbers forms the Assembly Language and a translator program is required to translate to the machine language. The operation codes and operands are given in the form of alphanumeric symbols which are known as mnemonic codes and can combine in a maximum of five-letter combinations e.g. ADD for addition, SUB for subtraction etc.

5. d

The **CC** ("Carbon Copy") field allows you to specify recipients who are not direct addressees (listed in the "To" field).

The **BCC** ("blind carbon copy") field is similar to CC, except the recipients are secret. Each BCC recipient will receive the e-mail, but will not see who else received a copy.

6. a

DSL stands for Digital Subscriber Line. It is an internet connection that is always "on". This uses 2 lines, so your phone is not tied up when your computer is connected. There is also no need to dial a phone number to connect. DSL uses a router to transport data and the range of connection speed, depending on the service offered, is between 128K to 8 Mbps.

7. a

Kernel is the central component of an operating system that manages operations of computer and hardware. It basically manages operations of memory and CPU time. It is the core component of an operating system. Kernel acts as a bridge between applications and data processing performed at hardware level using inter-process communication and system calls.

8. a

The default port for Telnet client connections is **23**.

9. d

The following shortcuts can be used to advance to the next slide:

- N
- Enter
- Page Down
- Right arrow key
- Down arrow key
- Spacebar

10. b

Graphics are often described by the number of bits used to represent each dot. A 1-bit image is **monochrome**; an 8-bit image supports 256 colors or grayscales; and a 24- or 32-bit graphic supports true color.

11. d

VPN stands for virtual private network. A virtual private network (VPN) is a technology that creates a safe and encrypted connection over a less secure network, such as the internet. Virtual Private network is a way to extend a private network using a public network such as the internet. The name only suggests that it is a Virtual "private network" i.e. a user can be the part of a local network sitting at a remote location.

It makes use of tunneling protocols to establish a secure connection.

12. a

Direct memory access (DMA) is a method that allows an input/output (I/O) device to send or receive data directly to or from the main memory, bypassing the CPU to speed up memory operations. In other words, DMA is used to send data directly from a peripheral to the motherboard without involving the microprocessor, so that the process does not interfere with overall computer operation.

In older computers, four DMA channels were numbered 0, 1, 2 and 3. When the 16-bit industry standard architecture (ISA) expansion bus was introduced, channels 5, 6 and 7 were added. The process is managed by a chip known as a DMA controller (DMAC).

13. b

In MS Excel, The minimum space that should be provided between two columns is 0 inch. MS Excel is a software program produced by Microsoft that allows users to organize, format and calculate data with formulas using a spreadsheet system. It is part of the Microsoft Office suite and is compatible with other applications in the Office suite.

14. c

Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) provides an e-mail facility among different hosts. It supports sending a single message to one or more than one recipients, sending messages can include attachments and can also send messages on the network outside the internet,

15. d

Ctrl + N is used to create a new blank document in the Microsoft Word.

Ctrl + P is used to print the current document.

16. d

Electronic Delay Storage Automatic Calculator (EDSAC) was the first practical general-purpose stored-program electronic computer. It was built according to the von Neumann machine principles. EDSAC was originally built in the Cambridge University Mathematical Laboratory by a team lead by the late Professor Sir Maurice Wilkes immediately following the Second World War.

17. c

A warm boot (also called a soft boot) is the process of restarting a computer. It may be used in contrast to a cold boot, which refers to starting up a computer that has been turned off. Warm boots are typically initiated by a Restart command in the operating system.

18. **d**

In a **Star topology**, all the nodes are connected to a single hub through a cable. This hub is the central node. The data can be sent from one node to another through the hub. Hub acts as a repeater for data flow. It can be used with twisted pair, Optical Fibre or Coaxial cable.

19. **b**

The **presentation layer** establishes the way in which information is presented, typically for display or printing. Data encryption and character set conversion

(such as ASCII to EBCDIC) are usually associated with this layer.

20. **c**

Red underline- This indicates either a possible spelling error or that Word doesn't recognize a word, such as a proper name or place.

Green underline- Word thinks that grammar should be revised.

Blue underline- A word is spelled correctly but does not seem to be the correct word for the sentence.

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